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AXE POISED IN NHS CASH EMERGENCY

£1.2bn shortfall as decade of funding growth ends

EMERGENCY budget cuts have been put forward by health chiefs in a bid to fill a £1.2 billion hole left by the Government's freeze on NHS spending in the region.

Proposals include potential job cuts across NHS South East Coast, which covers Kent, Surrey and Sussex, along with changing the way health services are provided. A report drawn up by the region's Strategic Health Authority (SHA) considers ways of avoiding redundancies, but makes it clear cuts are possible.

A figure of 10,000 job losses – 10 per cent of 100,000-strong workforce – was in an earlier draft of the report, but was dropped from the final version.

A spokeswoman at NHS South East Coast said they did not want to put a figure on any redundancies, but admitted job losses were possible.

"We are looking at other ways of closing

By **MARIJKE COX**

the gap between the care we need to deliver and the resources we will have," she said. "We will better manage workforce costs, some of which may be by taking advantage of natural wastage through retirement, turnover and so on."

"And we will continue to bring down spending on agency staff and put our energies into reducing absence through staff sickness as part of increasing health, well-being and efficiency."

The SHA is the headquarters for NHS trusts in the region, offering support and helping develop services, while ensuring each trust is managing its budget correctly. The proposals were submitted to Health Secretary Andy Burnham this week, along with reports from the nine other SHAs in the UK, which are also facing massive efficiency savings totally £20bn, including the South East's £1.2bn.

Last year, NHS chief executive Sir

David Nicholson told health bosses they must draw up revised funding plans after the recession forced the Government to freeze health spending from April, 2010.

And in last week's Budget announcements, Chancellor Alistair Darling said the £20bn savings were needed to help cut the £167bn national debt. Candy Morris, chief executive of NHS South East Coast, said there were fundamental challenges the authority must face.

"The NHS is entering its last year of operation with growth in funding," she said. "We must continue to improve health and quality of patient care without the growth in funding we have experienced in the last decade."

"There is an increasing demand for NHS services, the population is ageing and there are more patients with long-term conditions. Standing still is not an option. Action is needed now."

The South East NHS must identify and



**Joanna Lumley's
message of thanks
to KoS readers**

SEE INSIDE FOR FULL STORY

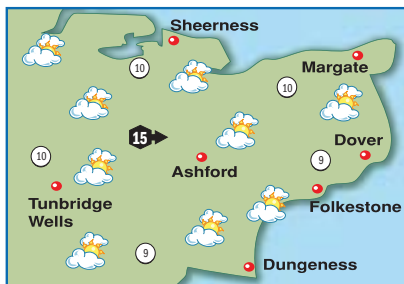
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Kent today



TODAY: Quite a cloudy start to the day with the risk of the odd spot of rain. Turning increasingly bright during the afternoon with plenty of sunny spells. Max temp 8-11C (46-52F). **TONIGHT:** It will be a predominantly dry night. Feeling cold with some patchy ground frost. Min temp 2-5C (36-41F).

Around Britain

	°C	°F		°C	°F
Aberdeen	drizzle	9 48	London	fair	11 52
Belfast	fair	9 48	Liverpool	fair	9 48
Birmingham	fair	10 50	Manchester	fair	9 48
B'mouth	fair	11 52	Newcastle	fair	9 48
Bristol	sun	9 48	Norwich	fair	10 50
Cardiff	fair	10 50	Oxford	fair	11 52
Cork	showers	9 48	Southsea	fair	11 52
Edinburgh	fair	9 48	S'hampton	fair	10 50
Glasgow	fair	9 48	Southport	sun	9 48
Isle of Man	fair	8 46	Swansea	fair	9 48
Leeds	fair	8 46	Torquay	fair	10 50

Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.24am	Sunset	7.34pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.38am	Moonset	8.57am	7.34pm to 6.22am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	03.00 6.3 15.22 6.1	03.45 5.9 16.11 5.8
Margate	04.03 4.6 16.20 4.3	04.45 4.4 17.03 4.1
St Mary's	08.51 5.0 21.12 4.9	09.34 4.5 22.02 4.5

Week ahead

monday Mostly cloudy. max 13C min 6C	thursday Sunny spells. max 13C min 5C
tuesday Light rain. max 14C min 6C	friday Sunny spells. max 13C min 5C
wednesday Light showers. max 14C min 4C	saturday Sunny spells. max 10C min 5C

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Hospital trusts told to improve patients' rights

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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URGENT improvements have been ordered at two hospital trusts over concerns about the quality of care given to patients.

Both the Medway NHS Foundation Trust and the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust have been told to shape up or face tougher action.

The threat comes from the Care Quality Commission (CQC), England's health and social care regulator, which found staff at both trusts needed better training to protect the rights of patients, particularly children and vulnerable adults.

All 378 trusts in the country need a licence from the CQC to operate and only 22 have been ordered to make urgent improvements. Medway's inclusion is all the more concerning as foundation trusts are supposed to be the top-performing organisations in the health service.

Protected

CQC regional director Roxy Boyce said Medway management needed to improve the take-up of safeguarding training for vulnerable adults and children, speed up the logging of incidents, and ensure the rights of mental health patients who may not be able to consent to treatment are protected.

She added: "We have outlined the necessary action with strict deadlines. It is the responsibility of the trust to make sure improvements are made, and we will be checking to ensure they are. The trust itself has highlighted other areas where improvements are needed, and we will also be checking these are made."

"Registration is just the first step in the new system of regulation. We will monitor the trust continually to ensure it is providing safe, quality care to the people it serves."

Deadlines have been placed for the four conditions imposed on the trust, with the earliest being May 1 for all staff who deal with children or vulnerable adults to receive safeguarding training.

A trust official said management had already realised the take-up of training was not high enough and progress has been made. She added the process for logging inci-

dents had also already been speeded up, and this would provide more timely reports on the areas the trust needs to address.

For the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust, the CQC said mental health patients were sometimes detained against their will because they did not realise they were allowed to leave.

Some patients who voluntarily entered the county's hospitals for treatment were locked in with patients who are not allowed to leave because, for example, they have been sectioned. The voluntary patients were not always allowed out, despite being healthy enough and legally entitled to go home.

Mrs Boyce said: "The trust must take action to address concerns about safeguarding the rights of people who use its services."

"It has been working hard on improvements since our inspections earlier this year, but CQC has put a condition on its registration because we have not yet seen enough evidence of improvement to convince us that our concerns have been fully resolved."

The social care partnership trust provides a range of services across Kent and Medway, with a main focus on mental health. It also provides services for people with learning disabilities and substance misuse problems from more than 260 sites across the county.

Linda Leonard, chief executive of the Sevenoaks branch of mental health charity Mind, said patients needed more information about what they can and cannot do.

She said: "It's important because it concerns people's rights. It's about making sure patients have the right information. Some people don't take information in very well, so perhaps staff need to keep repeating what their rights are or find another way."

According to the CQC, the trust must revise its informal leave policy for non-detained patients and provide evidence of this from May 1. It must also ensure staff are fully trained to deal with the revised policy by June 1. The trust's medical director, Dr Karen White, said: "It's encouraging to see how stringent the requirements for registration are. The process is thorough."

"After we have implemented this change in policy and can demonstrate all staff are trained, we will be able to apply to be registered without any conditions at all."



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NHS search for £1.2bn savings

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

deliver £1.2bn of efficiency savings between 2011-12 and the end of 2014.

Ms Morris added: "This is a huge undertaking in an extremely challenging economic environment."

A draft document circulated among SHA board members stated bosses should reduce employee numbers by 10 per cent or more – meaning 10,000 job losses.

It also outlined that job cuts were expected to hit the acute sector, which covers hospitals.

"In its final published form, the report stated we will have to halt the growth in workforce and that we have seen a 10 per cent growth since 2007," the SHA spokeswoman said.

The overall budget for the South East region is about £7bn, with the overall national NHS budget at £110bn.

The spokeswoman added: "We are looking to see how we can best reduce costs through improving quality and spreading best practice – bringing everyone up to the level of the best."

"Poor quality care costs more. For example, treating people ineffectively means they need to come back, which costs more. People getting infections in hospital means they have to stay in hospital for longer, which costs more."

The plans have now been made public, but will not be finalised until later this year, with the possible changes depending on the general election result.

Deficit

But the Department of Health stressed cuts were needed within the health sector to bring down the national deficit.

A spokeswoman said: "To ensure the quality of NHS services continues to improve, service must be more productive. Better designed services can deliver both better quality and value for money. We will be clear with trusts that they must not make short-term cuts that harm patient care."

"Service change is important to drive through our reforms and must be guided by the need to improve quality for patients and secure best value for taxpayers' investment."

Steven Brazier, regional head of health at Unison, said meetings between unions were taking place next week to look at the report.

"Part of these discussions will be around job security, pay restraints and job flexibility," he said. "We'll be looking at retraining and redeployment options, rather than redundancies. Savings are already being made by reconfiguring and sharing services between primary care trusts in Kent."

"We're looking to minimise redundancies through retraining, although at director level this isn't always an option. At the moment we're shadow-boxing until the election, but whichever way it goes the challenges will be the same and could potentially get worse."



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Star's message for KoS readers who backed Gurkha battle

Lumley fights back

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

ACTRESS Joanna Lumley has thanked Kent on Sunday readers for their continued support during the "smear campaign" by veterans' minister Kevan Jones.

The Absolutely Fabulous star spoke to this newspaper after publicly denying allegations made by Mr Jones about the Gurkha Justice Campaign, which saw the ex-soldiers given UK settlement rights last year.

He claimed the former model – who grew up near Ashford and later lived in Wingham – had lured Gurkhas to the UK with "promises of paradise" and was guilty of a "deathly silence" when problems later arose with exploitation of the soldiers by charities in Nepal.

But Ms Lumley hit back this week, revealing how campaigners had in fact been carrying out work to help the Government implement resettlement rights at the request of Gordon Brown, who asked that it be done out of the public eye.

Minutes before she spoke out, Mr Jones apologised unreservedly for his comments and the Prime Minister gave his full support to the actress's campaign.

Speaking to KOS Media just after her conversation with Mr Brown, Ms Lumley said: "I hope Kent on Sunday readers and the Gurkha community who have supported us have no doubts in their minds about the wonderful victory we achieved last year."

"I wouldn't want the minister's comments to have made them question this achievement. I want to thank them again for their wonderful support and spirit."

She also paid tribute to fellow campaigner



ALLEGATIONS: Peter Carroll and Joanna Lumley celebrated the success of the Gurkha Justice Campaign last year

Peter Carroll, Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and Weald, who launched and led the battle next to Ms Lumley.

She added: "We didn't want to speak out in this way and it's rather upsetting that it got to this stage, but I'm pleased we have got our voices heard."

Cllr Carroll said he was "furious" with the allegations made by Mr Jones, saying he and Ms Lumley had been "disgracefully slurred".

Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone is home to the 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles, while nearly half the soldiers from the Maidstone-based 36 Engineers Regiment are Queen's Gurkha Engineers.

The duo were criticised by the minister and dubbed "rogues" during a Home Affairs Committee meeting in February for allegedly creating false expectations for the Gurkhas.

Problems arose when veterans' charities in Nepal began encouraging former soldiers to donate hundreds of pounds before referring them to British law firms.

Mr Jones suggested Howe and Co solicitors, which were involved in the justice campaign, were taking money for resettlement advice that was available free through the MoD.

But an investigation found this to be untrue and partner Martin Howe spoke out at this week's conference, stating the minister's comments were "extremely defamatory".

Mr Jones also discovered that his "deathly silence" comments were unfounded when Ms Lumley revealed the campaigners had been working for the last seven months to try and get expensive visa fees of more than £400 scrapped for ex-Gurkhas.

The onslaught left the campaigners believing they had no other option but to speak out and stop the undermining of one of the great public campaigns of recent times.

Bullied

In an open letter from Cllr Carroll, Ms Lumley and Howe and Co, they expressed their upset at the situation: "The country celebrated the winning of settlement rights for veteran Gurkhas. A historic wrong was put right. A debt of honour was repaid."

"The proper implementation of such rights is the plain responsibility of Government."

"Our campaign's aim has always been to safeguard and protect the rights of veteran Gurkhas. We will not be bullied out of doing so."

In response, Mr Jones said: "I'm sorry if any offence was caused – this was not intended. My sole concern, and that of the Government, is to stop unscrupulous middlemen ripping off vulnerable ex-Gurkhas."

Ms Lumley said she accepted the apology in the spirit in which it was given and expressed her thanks to Mr Jones.

New M20 junction

THE Government has announced plans for a new junction on the M20, aiming to stimulate economic growth and improve journey times.

Proposals for junction 10a, near Ashford, were published by transport minister Chris Mole.

Ministers hope the junction will help development and investment for 31,000 new homes and 28,000 new jobs in the area by 2031.

If planning approval is given, the new junction will open in 2014 or 2015.

Sheriff gets horse

THE Kent Invicta Award has been presented to quadriplegic sailor Hilary Lister and former High Sheriff Amanda Cottrell in recognition their services to the county.

Donations of £5,000 to charity and a silver horse trophy were presented by Kent County Council chairman John Davies on Thursday.

Ms Cottrell will give her £5,000 to The Fairbridge Trust which helps young people.

Last year Mrs Lister, from Faversham, became the first disabled woman to sail solo around Britain. She also runs the Dream Trust to help other people with disabilities.

To see this clip search 'Madrid' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Twenty-four motorists drove 1,000 miles to Madrid and raised over £20,000 for Martha Trust

Canadian child porn case crosses Atlantic

A KENT man has been arrested as part of a probe by Canadian police into child porn.

Officers based in the state of Ontario have uncovered 73 suspects in 20 countries during their ongoing investigation.

It is believed the Kent man is a registered sex offender.

The investigation started with the arrest of an Ontario man, aged 29, who is facing sexual assault and child porn charges.

The case is currently before the court in Canada and under the country's laws no details of any suspects can be revealed.

However it is understood the investigation focused on internet porn.

Officers have emphasised that despite the offences being online, there are serious consequences for real-life victims.

"While the internet has shown its potential to assist society is endless, we need to remember there are people out there whose use of the internet will destroy the lives of our children," said Ontario-based Supt John Nielsen.

No formal details can yet be released about the offences and those involved, say Canadian law enforcement officials.

But members of the country's Integrated Child Exploitation (ICE) unit say their work is continuing. They say each of the suspects is believed to be in possession of hundreds, if not thousands or even millions of files containing millions of images of victims from around the world.

"We know at any given time one of the cases can lead to countless suspects that are hurting children," said Det Randy Wickins, ICE investigator.

"They communicate on the internet, they share this material with one another. The internet is a social thing – by finding one often times it leads to finding others."

Of the 73 suspects police have identified, seven are from the UK, 18 are in Germany, 10 are in the United States and five in the Netherlands. France, Russia and Sweden are each home to four of the suspects, while Italy is home to three.

Two suspects were identified in each of Austria, Belgium, Costa Rica, India, Norway and Spain. One suspect was identified in each of Australia, Canada, Greece, Croatia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

PRINCE Charles has agreed to remain as patron of the Battle of Britain Fighter Association for a further five years.

The Prince of Wales originally took on the role in suc-

cession to his grandmother, the Queen Mother.

This is an important year for the association as it marks the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

The bravery and sacrifice

of 'The Few' will be marked by a Memorial Parade and Service to be held at the National Memorial to the Battle of Britain at Capel-le-Ferne near Folkestone on Sunday, July 11.

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Top scorers always popular

Independent education adviser PETER READ looks at the thorny issue of the allocation of school places and at which schools are proving most popular this year

KENT County Council figures show an increase in the number of children being offered their first choice secondary school on March 1 – up to 80 per cent.

However, this means more than 3,000 children did not get their chosen school, in many cases producing family heartbreak.

Schools in Kent and Medway show wide fluctuations in popularity, with academies making much of the news. Eighteen schools each turned away more than 50 children who put them in first place, while at the other end of the scale six schools were over half empty before KCC added to their numbers with children who had been given none of their choices.

For the third year running, Leigh Technology Academy (Dartford) was top of the oversubscription lists, with 218 disappointed first-choice applicants. Second was Skinners School (but see below), third Valley Park, Maidstone, centre of a row over fullness last year, with 112 turned away, an even larger number than 2009.

Other schools oversubscribed by more than 50 first-choice applicants are (in order): Homewood (Tenterden); North (Ashford); Judd (Tonbridge); Thomas Aveling (Rochester); Fulston Manor then Westlands (both Sittingbourne); Bennett Memorial (Tunbridge Wells); Folkestone Academy; Tonbridge Grammar; Brockhill Park (Hythe); Sandwich Technology College; Mascalls (Paddock Wood); Charles Dickens (Broadstairs); Gillingham Academy; Weald of Kent Grammar; and Hayesbrook (Tonbridge).

While these figures are normally the best guide to popularity, the Skinners figure is considerably inflated as many of their first choices were actually crowded out by children who didn't score enough to get into Judd but secured places at Skinners as their second choice.

These are the vagaries of the super selection debate. Four of the half-empty schools: Christchurch (Ashford); New Line Learning (Maidstone); Skinners Kent Academy (Tunbridge Wells); and Wildernesse (Sevenoaks), are hoping for a better future as they are either new academies or about to become academies.

Targeting

The school with the greatest fall in first choices is Wilmington Enterprise College (now in special measures), also due to become an academy, so the programme is clearly fulfilling its intention of targeting problem schools.

Indeed, Longfield Academy has obviously turned the corner as far as parents are concerned and has the greatest increase in first choices (67) of any Kent or Medway school.

The pressure of out-of-county children taking places in Kent grammars is once again greatest in the north west of the county, with 241 taking up places in the four Dartford grammars (36 coming from as far away as Lewisham) as opposed to just 53 in the three west Kent super selectives. My view on the cause of the pressure in west Kent grammars is starting to swing towards the intense coaching culture being the prime source of the problem.

Many of these figures will have changed this week as parents had to decide whether to accept places offered and there will be happiness for some, offered places off the waiting lists. As many as 700 children may gain places through the appeal procedure, although this stressful process goes on until July for some.

One last statistic: 151 Kent children are bound for Medway schools, with 116 coming the other way.

School planners are required by Government to reduce the number of empty places in schools and spend much time making decisions based on local population figures, when choices often cross boundaries. The more I see figures such as the above, the more I become convinced that parents have a wisdom about which are the best non-selective schools and their collective voice should be listened to.

I'm not so sure this applies to grammar schools, where some parents chase the top scoring schools without stopping to look at the underlying factors. You will find more details on my website at www.kentadvice.co.uk.

Struggling schools team up with good neighbours to meet National Challenge

A GOVERNMENT review of Kent's struggling secondary schools has resulted in two of the worst performers being teamed up with stronger neighbours, *writes Steve Knight*.

Swanley Technology College and Swan Valley Community School, Swanscombe, have both been given National Challenge Trust status after repeatedly falling short of GCSE attainment targets.

The Government wants at least 30 per cent of pupils at all schools to be achieving a minimum of five A* to C grades including English and maths by 2011, but last year Swanley Tech only managed 22 per cent and Swan Valley just 20. It is hoped that by teaming up with higher-achieving partners and capitalising on their experience and resources, the schools' grades will improve. Independent education adviser Peter Read said he wasn't surprised with the fortunes of either school.

"The head at Swan Valley [Nigel Jones] is energetic and has done his best under very difficult circumstances. It's a new school on too small a site, in the wrong place and in an area of social deprivation," he said.

"I'm disappointed it's not been performing very well because I know how much hard work has been put in. Swanley Tech has been struggling for years though, so I'm not surprised by either. As for teaming low-achieving schools with high-achieving ones, there's mixed evidence in Kent. I can think of one or two that have been very successful, but about four that have been disasters.

provided in Kent and pleased our progress and plans have been broadly supported. I know a phenomenal amount of effort has been devoted to ensure students fulfil their potential and leave school with a good batch of GCSEs."

When Mr Balls announced the launch of the National Challenge in June, 2008, he received a letter of complaint from KCC.

Then-education chief Cllr Chris Wells told him he was damaging the morale of teachers and pupils by threatening to close schools in the county unless GCSE results improved. However, a third of the struggling schools have since passed the 30 per cent benchmark.

Meanwhile, a new academy for Dover has been announced after funding was approved by Mr Balls. Dover Christ Church Academy will replace Archers Court Maths and Computing College, and will open in September. Also announced was funding for the Brompton Academy in Medway to specialise in science and the arts.

News and sport updated daily online
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SCHOLARS: Partner schools can help raise standards

"Sometimes no matter how good the partner schools are, the problems of the low-performing ones cannot be overcome."

In November, Education Secretary Ed Balls sent two expert advisers to carry out a progress review of the 31 schools receiving National Challenge help in Kent.

As a result KCC was asked to consider options for raising standards at its lowest-performing schools, which resulted in the decision to afford trust status to Swan Valley and Swanley Tech.

Mr Balls has since accepted the authority's action plan as well as approved £350,000 funding for initiatives such as Extra Mile and Teach First.

Swanley Tech head Julie Bramley said she sought trust status because she was concerned the college was missing out.

She said: "We're hoping to become part of the Kemnal Trust, which has four schools that were originally in special measures. They've all now accelerated out of special measures, so we're very positive about it. It's a successful, proven model and we're happy to join."

Swan Valley will be teamed up with the Hayesbrook School in Tonbridge, which in 2008 was rated excellent by Ofsted for the second time. Cllr Jenny Whittle, KCC's deputy cabinet member for education, said the council spent a lot of time working on ways to drive up standards at its National Challenge schools.

She added: "We're proud of the education

Let there be light

SOLAR-powered road studs have been fitted on the A20 between Folkestone and Dover.

Overnight work began at the end of last month to fit 8,000 studs on the 6.3-mile route, between Court Wood and junction 13 of the M20, and between Court Wood and the Western Heights roundabout in Dover.

A Highways Agency official said: "The studs allow drivers to follow the road more easily."

Burr's new role

KENT Highways has appointed a new director. John Burr has 26 years' experience in highways engineering and replaces interim director Caroline Bruce.

He said: "Kent Highways was on the front foot in the snow emergency and has been tackling potholes after the worst winter for 30 years. It showed foresight in predicting the problem and pumping resources in."

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THE INTERVIEW



BY JANE CONNOLLY

Breathing new life into the bunny tale of make believe

KEEPING in the Easter spirit, Little Bridge Theatre Company's next production features a 6ft rabbit.

Harvey tells the story of a man who claims to see the huge bunny wherever he goes, much to the disbelief of the people around him. But as more characters begin to see Harvey, Mary Chase's Pulitzer Prize-winning play provokes debate about the nature of madness and the possible merits of living in a make-believe world.

Director Patricia Mayes spoke about the challenges and attractions of Harvey, which is the first production she has directed for the main stage at Tonbridge's EM Forster Theatre.

Imagination

"Harvey isn't the sort of literary work that cries out to be interpreted, but I believe the play does raise some interesting questions about the concept of 'normality' and the triumph of imagination over reason, logic and reality," she said. "There is a wealth of drama about the tragic descent into madness; Harvey suggests there might be a very happy ascent into the world of fantasy."

James Stewart starred in the 1950 film version and Hayes saw him reprise the role on the London stage 25 years later, an experience which has stayed with her.

"At Little Bridge, we are keen to produce a broad range of theatre and to give acting opportunities to all our membership. Harvey fitted the bill on all counts," she said. "It's a gentle comedy with a feel-good, happy ending and we all need those from time to time. I believe the audience will leave the theatre smiling and perhaps quietly wondering if they too saw the 6ft white rabbit."

Formed in 2005, after the success of com-



THE PLAYERS: (l-r) Chris Brown, Liz Pretty, Patricia Mayes, Emily Ffrench and Andy Hall of the Little Bridge Theatre Company

munity play Jealous River, the Tonbridge-based amateur theatre company now has about 50 members of all ages and backgrounds. As well as being vice chair of the company, Mayes has been a member since its inception. She studied English at university and has no formal theatre training, but she has been able to develop her interest in directing through the company's informal apprenticeship scheme.

"There is a saying that the only way to

learn to direct is to find a bunch of people fool enough to let you direct them," she said. "I'm privileged to know some very talented actors fool enough to give me that opportunity."

So far Little Bridge Theatre Company has staged a variety of productions, from Chaucer to their own self-devised play. Mayes is always keen to encourage new members to discover the joy of group achievement.

"Amateur theatre gives anybody the chance to participate in a group activity, all pulling

on the rope to get the production on stage, while having a lot of fun in the process," she said. "No matter how busy our lives, there's something rewarding about the journey to opening night you all take together."

• **Harvey runs at the EM Forster Theatre from April 15-17. Tickets cost £12/£10 and can be booked by calling 01732 304241. Anyone interested in joining can visit www.littlebridge.org or call secretary Liz Pretty on 01892 523962.**

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'Vigilante' speed cameras claim

KENT Police have denied they are using Big Brother techniques to clamp down on motorists by handing out speed cameras to members of the public.

The move has been bitterly attacked as promoting neighbourhood vigilantism.

A camera kit has been made available to people in Canterbury, Whitstable and Herne Bay. And now police are looking for volunteers to help monitor the speed of motorists in their communities.

The new mobile Speedwatch equipment was bought by the Safer Canterbury District Partnership. As cars pass the camera, the electronics measures its speed and flashes it on a large roadside sign.

Volunteers will take the vehicle registration number of those exceeding the limit and drivers will receive a warning letter from the police – but no fine or points.

However, the man behind it said if the same drivers persistently speed through the checkpoints, a real police patrol will be lying in wait for them, and that could lead to fines and points on licences.

If it's a success, the rest of Kent may follow.

Police Community Support Officer Graeme Downes said: "We have bought one set of equipment for this district.

"But obviously if this does work, it is something the police would probably take on board and spread to a wider area.

"This is for people to use if they think there is a particular problem in their area.

"It is supposed to primarily be a deterrent, we won't be targeting anyone in particular.

"The people using the equipment will be in high-visibility clothing and there is a large sign which flashes the speed of a vehicle.



"That highlights the fact that a particular area has a problem and makes motorists aware of that and hopefully they will slow down every time they pass through."

Ian Taylor, from the Kent branch of the Association of British Drivers, said: "We don't like speed cameras in general.

"We don't like this particular type because it puts them in the hands of people who are not very well trained, and invites vigilantism.

"These camera need to be properly calibrated, which can be tricky, and you can't always trust them to be exact.

"And it usually turns out that the people complaining about speeding motorists in their community are those who are doing the speeding.

"There is a chance someone could repeatedly write down the registration number of someone they simply don't like and cause problems which are unfounded."

Speedwatch is already in operation in the East Kent area, where parishes have bought their own equipment, and it is hoped this new kit will enable the scheme to be extended.

Insp Terry Chuter of the Canterbury neighbourhood team said: "Excess speed is one of

SPEED CHECK: PCSOs Mike Keam and Graeme Downes show the Speedwatch equipment to David Hayward of Partner and Community Together

the most common factors contributing to collisions and we are keen to work with communities who tell us, quite rightly, that it is one of the things that concerns them the most.

"This new equipment is straightforward to use and I hope people will take up the opportunity to join in making the area where they live safer for all."

The training for using the equipment is one session of a couple of hours. For more information contact your neighbourhood officer at www.kent.police.uk and enter your postcode.

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'Pitbulls' seized

SEVEN suspected illegal pitbull terriers have been seized by police at a house in Dover.

Officers searched the property in Pioneer Road on Tuesday under the Misuse of Drugs Act. There had been complaints from residents in the road about suspected drug offences.

Cannabis was allegedly found, along with three adult pitbulls and four puppies.

A 24-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of possessing herbal cannabis, abstracting electricity and possessing dangerous dogs.

A poll at kentnews.co.uk found that 69 per cent of the 409 who voted believed dogs should be compulsorily microchipped and insured.

Eurostar alarm

PASSENGERS were evacuated from a Eurostar train after a fire alarm was raised while it was travelling through the Channel Tunnel.

Police were alerted at about 3pm on Monday and the Brussels-to-London train stopped at Ashford International.

Some 450 passengers were evacuated as a precaution. Another train then collected them to continue their journey to St Pancras.

Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Service both attended to deal with the incident.

No criminal offences are believed to have been committed.

Ward correction

IN LAST week's edition we mistakenly said Canterbury councillor Roger Matthews, who was recently cleared of corruption charges, represented Greenhill and Broomfield ward.

The correct name of Cllr Matthews' ward is Greenhill and Eddington.

This is separate from the Herne and Broomfield ward represented by councillors Sharron Sonnex, Evelyn Bissett and Peter Vickery-Jones. We are happy to clarify this matter.

Dragon breathes new life into boating pool

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

DRAGONS' Den star Duncan Bannatyne has been helping to stop a popular boating pool from sinking.

As part of a new TV show, the Westcliff Leisure Park and Boating Pool in Ramsgate has been rebranded as The Boating Pool, and given an extensive makeover.

It is being run by former professional musician Thalís Thalís and his sister Katy Nicolaou, who has put her home up as collateral.

Thalís said: "We really needed this. I applied to go on the Seaside Rescue show when I saw something on the internet.

"I never expected to get on and was shocked when they asked to come along. It was even better when they agreed to take on the project.

"Duncan was great and we didn't fall out over much. The worst bit was when I told him we needed to boost the winter trade and he kept telling me I needed to clean the toilets and empty the bins.

"I tried to explain that is not going to be the best way of bringing in winter trade, but he just avoided that side of things.

"But we did get on very well. There is a scene on the TV advert for the show which makes it look like I am storming off, but the truth is I just had to be somewhere.

"I have not seen the final show and just hope it shows all the work and effort that has gone in to the place in a positive light."

DIVE IN: Thalís Thalís and Katy Nicolaou hope to save The Boating Pool with the help of Duncan Bannatyne's Seaside Rescue Show



The pool has been in the Thalís family for about 30 years, having previously been run by his uncle and father.

Father-of-two Thalís said: "I don't want to be the one who makes a mess of it. I am determined to keep going even though this is a seasonal business. Three months of the year have to pay for 12, so I am still looking for something for it to do in the winter."

The boating pool was built in the 1920s and is now a Grade-II listed building.

The 38-year-old said: "It was starting to show its age, and needed a good revamp, but it was hard to know where to start.

"I am so grateful to the production company for persuading lots of local businesses to

help us out. We put in about £8,000 of our own money, but have spent a lot more.

"We needed to empty the pool, clean it all up, and paint a lot of the walls. It was hard work, but I think it has been worth it."

Bannatyne, who spent about four days on site, has a personal fortune said to be around £320 million from a chain of gyms, and is one of Britain's most successful entrepreneurs.

He said he wanted the show to look beyond cosmetic makeovers and aim for a long-term renewal of traditional holiday attractions.

A new website will be up and running soon at theboatingpool.co.uk.

• **Duncan Bannatyne's Seaside Rescue is on Virgin 1 on Tuesday, April 6, at 9pm.**

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TRAGIC: Rifleman Daniel Holkham

Brave brother killed tackling suicide bomber

A TEENAGE soldier has been killed after challenging a crazed suicide bomber in Afghanistan.

Daniel Holkham, 19, from Chatham, died after the bomber detonated his explosive device in Helmand Province on Saturday, March 27.

The young rifleman – who served in 3rd Battalion The Rifles with brothers Andrew and Matthew – was killed instantly. His actions are thought to have saved the lives of countless civilians and fellow soldiers.

Parents Rodney and Tracy from the

Isle of Sheppey paid tribute to their son, affectionately known in his unit as 'Snake Eyes'.

They said: "The loss of our son Danny has left a huge hole in our lives and that of his brothers and friends that can never again be filled."

"He served his country faithfully and with great pride."

Rfn Holkham enlisted in the Army at the age of 16 after achieving an NVQ in engineering from Minster College in Sheerness. He joined 3 Rifles in April, 2008, and deployed to

Afghanistan in September of last year. Rfn Holkham's body was flown home on Tuesday, when hundreds of people lined the streets of Wootton Bassett to pay tribute to his sacrifice.

Lieutenant Colonel Nick Kitson, Commanding Officer, 3 Rifles Battle Group said: "Daniel Holkham was a model Rifleman; robust, bright and dedicated, he was everything a commander could hope for and more."

"There is no doubt that a bright future lay ahead of this young man and it is a tragedy he has been

robbed of the opportunity to fulfil it. "Rifleman Holkham was well established as the lead man in his patrol, responsible for searching the ground for buried explosive devices to allow his patrol to pass safely."

Defence Secretary Bob Ainsworth said: "I was deeply saddened to hear of the death of Rfn Daniel Holkham."

"He was clearly an extremely brave and respected Rifleman, who had helped to save the lives of those around him, through his work detecting IEDs."

Silent threat of eating disorders

By **MARIJKE COX**

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MENTAL health workers are urging the public to recognise the seriousness of eating disorders as the number of sufferers in the UK reaches a staggering 1.6 million.

According to experts, many people dismiss anorexia and bulimia as a 'phase' and something that can easily be cured.

But NHS Kent and Medway Social Care Partnership said there is little understanding behind the condition, with many secret sufferers unable to speak out.

Joy Harrison, primary care liaison nurse for eating disorders in East Kent, said although there are increasing numbers of people coming

forward, there are still hard-to-reach patients.

"There are a lot of people who are sceptical and can't understand why somebody is not eating," she said. "They think by telling someone to eat they will, but it is more complex than that. This attitude means sufferers won't always admit they have a problem."

Sufferers either starve themselves, or binge eat before vomiting. Excessive exercise and using laxatives are also common.

Self-harm

Diabetes sufferers have also been known to use insulin to keep their weight down.

Ms Harrison said eating disorders are a form of self-harm, which can be linked to depression and in many cases are a form of control.

"Social pressures at school or if there are problems within a family, for example, divorce, can lead to the condition," she said.

"Or in other cases, somebody could make an

off-the-cuff remark, such as 'you've put on weight' which can also lead to problems."

Ms Harrison said males and females of all ages can suffer from anorexia or bulimia.

"Often it is detected when they go to see their GP about a problem they believe is not associated with the eating disorder, such as tummy pains or severe headaches."

"With anorexic people you can usually see the weight loss so schools or families often notice the problem, but with bulimia sufferers it is harder to detect as there is not always the excessive weight loss."

"A GP will refer the patient to us and we carry out assessments. Usually the person wants help and it's a relief for them when we get involved."

Ms Harrison said NHS Kent and Medway Social Partnership offer psychosocial intervention work to help people deal with stress and tackle reasons behind the disorder.

"Education is very important and working

with people to make their lives less stressful is also a key thing we do," she said.

"Some people suffer a lot of stress throughout the day or have low self-esteem and we help draw up coping mechanisms."

NHS Medway is also tackling stress and anxiety through a new draft strategy.

Mental well-being

Lauretta Kavanagh, director of commissioning for mental health for Kent and Medway, is inviting people to give their views before the final version is published.

"This is about working together as a community to improve mental well-being, and to ensure people who develop mental illness get the care that best meets their needs," she said.

Visit www.medwaypct.nhs.uk/liveitwell.

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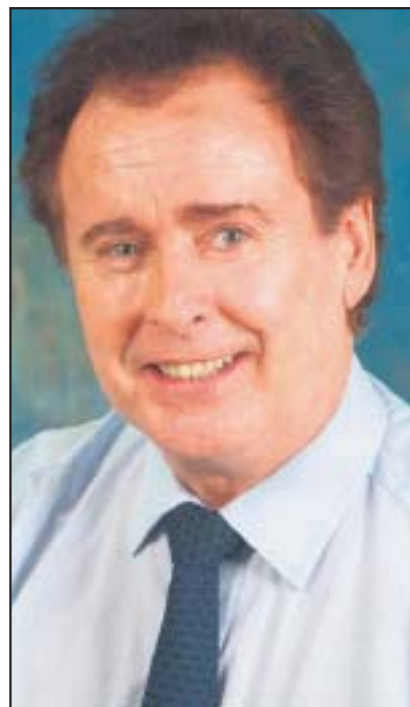
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Final thoughts from departing KCC chief exec as his replacement is welcomed



REFLECTING: Chief executive Peter Gilroy

Single tragic death should not define policy, says Gilroy

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SOLITARY child death cases should not result in wholesale changes for the entire social work industry, claims County Hall's out-going chief executive.

Peter Gilroy spent eight years as Kent County Council's director of social services until being promoted to the top job in 2004, and last week published a report claiming the authority was "just about coping" with the pressures of preventing a Baby P-type tragedy.

The document made 19 recommendations on how to improve the department, including the need for regular updates from senior staff, easier computer programmes to cut red tape, and the introduction of new trainee and bursary schemes.

However, Mr Gilroy admitted to KOS Media this week that he thought more children were potentially being put at risk due to social workers becoming over-regulated.

He said: "Is this really going to protect the child when social workers are spending 80 per cent of their time in the office and 20 per cent visiting families?"

"I think we've become over-regulated in this area and it's time we took a step back to

reflect. What we really need are highly competent people who are empowered to make judgements regarding the work they are qualified to carry out.

"If all we have is a young workforce that spends the majority of its time behind desks, then don't be surprised if your risks go up.

"I think as a culture we've become over-regulated. The state is seen to be responsible for everything and we as people are not responsible for anything.

"In reality we have the lowest child death rate outside of Ireland in the English-speaking world, so I think we need a balance here.

"We do have these terrible tragedies from time to time but you have to sit that in context with the thousands of children who are being protected every year. A public inquiry certainly shouldn't be held in response to just one tragedy."

The review carried out by Mr Gilroy was commissioned by KCC in December, 2008, in response to the Baby P scandal that resulted in social workers throughout the UK finding themselves under intense scrutiny.



BABY P: Tragic
Peter Connolly
was killed in 2007

The 17-month-old – who has since been named as Peter Connolly – died after sustained abuse at the hands of his mother, her boyfriend and their lodger in Haringey, north London, in August, 2007.

Late last month Rosalind Turner, the head of KCC's child protection services, issued a public apology when it emerged a social worker failed to act on a warning about a man who went on to kill his baby daughter.

Christopher Sellman, 24, from Tunbridge Wells, was found guilty of the November, 2008, manslaughter of his 25-day-old daughter Tiffany when he appeared at Maidstone Crown Court last week.

Mr Gilroy said: "We all get frustrated when we see these tragedies occurring but overall social workers are better today.

"However, the number of referrals they are receiving is staggering.

"In the last year there has been a more than 20 per cent increase in Kent alone. That always happens after a public inquiry because people become very nervous and report everything.

"While it's good that people are being vigilant, it does take up a lot of time and resources for the social workers who have to look into every single report."

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THE MOTORISTS' NO.1 CHOICE FOR CROSSING THE CHANNEL

Web TV experience invaluable, despite failure

KENT County Council will benefit from the failure of its internet television station, says chief executive Peter Gilroy, one of the men behind the project.

He admitted he was disappointed with the decision to drop Kent TV earlier this year, but said the experience would prove invaluable to the authority.

Launched in 2007 and funded by £1.8 million of public money, the website only attracted 2,500 visitors per day and came under constant attack from opposition members and taxpayers. However, Mr Gilroy said he was

confident he had not seen the last of such projects.

"Maybe it was before its time, who knows?" he said. "But I think other councils will be doing it in the future and Kent will take some of the experiences of the station with them.

"I think KCC will have the best digital media one day and people will probably moan about that too. I was disappointed, but innovation is like that. When you're pushing against convention it's always going to be controversial."

When Kent TV launched in 2007 it was intended to be self-funding through advertising

by the end of its two-year pilot, but the station only made £10,000 from that source in its first seven months.

In addition to those who accused the authority of wasting taxpayers' money, others said it was undemocratic for a council to be allowed to choose the news it broadcast.

Mr Gilroy said: "My argument has always been that unless all of us understand what's going on in the world in terms of the digital revolution and we all start to work more closely together, then the future generations will wonder what the hell we've been doing."

'Katherine will do well'

PETER Gilroy has given his backing to the woman who will replace him in the top job at Kent County Council.

Current Northamptonshire County Council chief executive Katherine Kerswell will move to Kent in early July, where she will take up the new position of group managing director.

And Mr Gilroy, who plans to run his own consultancy firm when he leaves the authority on May 8, says he is confident she will do well.

He said: "I don't know her a great deal, but I know she's someone who is passionate about innovation and will carry on that tradition here in Kent.

"I'm sure she will want to continue the great progress we have made over the last five or six years, which have been the best for the council in terms of increasing its global profile.

"I hope Kent goes from success to success with Katherine at the helm, and I wish her well."

Mr Gilroy received a standing ovation after delivering his farewell speech to the council on Thursday, after which his successor was officially endorsed.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter revealed at the meeting that the personnel committee would seek to appoint an interim chief executive this week.



NEW FACE: Group MD Katherine Kerswell

And then there were two...

By **NICK AMES**

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ONE of the three landmark towers on top of the White Cliffs of Dover has been demolished.

The Ministry of Defence said the decision was taken as the condition of the 95ft high steel lattice structure was deteriorating.

"We were concerned it could be a health and safety hazard, hence the need for it be demolished to ground level," said an MoD spokesman. "A small single-storey building, steel cables and an equipment shelter are also being removed."

The radar station – which originally had four masts – was vital in the defence of the country during the Battle of Britain.

Its towers provided early warning of the waves of attacking Luftwaffe aircraft,



TOPPLED: The third tower has been demolished for health and safety reasons

ible to Germans on the coast of France after their conquest of the country in 1940.

Luftwaffe chief Herman Goering himself viewed them through a pair of binoculars.

With advanced – for the time – photographic equipment, the Germans used a long lens and an infra-red camera to take a picture using a five minute exposure technique.

However the results were misinterpreted and the buildings which form the Duke of York's Military School were thought to be in front of the complex.

Raids on the masts were ordered in the early stages of the Battle of Britain but called off relatively quickly.

Their significance in detecting the attacking squadrons was never realised.

The tower which has been removed was used during the Cold War for communications purposes, before housing a commercial mast. It was not a listed structure and had not been used by the MoD for many years.

Picture: PAM MUDGE-WOOD

enabling RAF fighters to be scrambled to meet them.

During World War Two the Germans never knew how important the station was in helping to defeat the aerial assault – and save Britain from a Nazi invasion.

The masts were put up in the spring of

1939 and by summer were fully operational.

They formed an important part of what was then known as the Chain Home System of radar detection stations across the country.

The station was top secret in order to keep the knowledge of the early warning devices from the Nazis. However, the masts were vis-



HERO: Bobby Moore captained England to victory in the 1966 World Cup

Memorabilia to help boost Bobby's fund

FOOTBALL fans heading for Folkestone will have the chance to buy a piece of history while helping to raise funds for a vital cause.

A football memorabilia fair, which includes programmes and badges, has so far raised more than £400 on behalf of the Bobby Moore Fund.

Organiser Simon Randall, who lives in Maidstone, has memorabilia from clubs around the county and beyond including Ashford, Aversley, Hornchurch, Lewes, Charlton Athletic, Maidstone United, Tonbridge Angels, Chelmsford City and Hastings United.

He is now making a return to Folkestone Invicta's Buzzlines Stadium in Cheriton Road to add to the fund, set up in memory of the 1966 World Cup-winning captain.

One of the country's greatest sporting heroes, Bobby Moore played for England 108 times, captained the team in a record 90 matches and also won the FA Cup, the European Cup Winners' Cup and was named Footballer of the Year.

The defender played club football for West Ham United and Fulham over a career which spanned more than two decades, and was awarded the OBE in 1967.

His death in 1993, at the age of 51, to bowel cancer led to his widow Stephanie to set up the fund as part of Cancer Research UK and it has raised more than £12 million and funded 36 projects across the UK.

The memorabilia fair takes place in the club's Stripes Bar on Sunday, April 11, from 11am-2pm. Entrance is 50p for adults and free for children and there will also be a raffle on the day.



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It's a question of Trust for Wheeler

MILLIONAIRE Stuart Wheeler has not ruled out targeting Kent seats after launching his own political party promoting honesty in the House of Commons.



POLITICAL PARTY:
Stuart Wheeler

The gambling tycoon, who lives at Chilham Castle, near Canterbury, launched Trust on Monday in response to the expenses scandal that shook Parliament last year. Mr Wheeler – who made the largest ever UK political donation when he gave £5 million to the Conservative Party a decade ago – will be standing for election in the Bexhill and Battle ward of East Sussex, but says he would welcome Kent candidates.

He said: "The main reason I'm standing in Bexhill and Battle is the Conservative MP there, Gregory Barker, has one of the worst expenses records."

Mr Wheeler said Mr Barker had escaped criticism from David Cameron because he was key ally of the party leader.

"I'm not particularly aware of any MPs in Kent who have behaved as badly as Barker, but I'd be fine with anyone standing for Trust in the county."

"All they need to do is be completely honest about their expenses and do what is right for their constituents."

Mr Barker – the Tories' climate change spokesman – made headlines last May when

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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he was accused of making a profit of £320,000 in two years by buying and selling a flat bought with the help of expenses.

Trust was officially launched just hours after new rules for MPs' expenses were announced, including a ban on taxpayer-funded second homes and an end to cleaning and gardening claims.

However, among Mr Wheeler's proposals is the introduction of a parliamentary court with the power to jail MPs who fiddle expenses.

The only other Trust candidate so far is Douglas Taylor, who will be standing in the

Scottish constituency of Perth and North Perthshire.

Mr Wheeler said: "I hope to get a good deal of support for the party and within only a day or two of the announcement I received a lot of emails from people who want to help."

"It's hard to predict how well we'll do at the election because this is almost an unprecedented situation, but people are really angry with politicians and feel they just don't get it."

"Whenever they open their mouths it's to excuse something they've done or to say something's not as bad as it seems, and hopefully that will work to my advantage."

Mr Wheeler made his fortune as the founder of the IG Index spread-betting firm

and made political history in 2000 when he donated £5m to the Tories under William Hague.

He also made a £500,000 contribution while Michael Howard was leader, as well as several payments of £50,000 under Mr Cameron.

However, Mr Wheeler was expelled from the party in March, last year, after giving £100,000 to the UK Independence Party ahead of the European elections, and he does not expect to ever be welcomed back.

He said: "I didn't abandon them, they abandoned me. I don't imagine a reconciliation is very likely now."

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Gale fears new rules will deter most talented

TOUGHER Commons expenses rules could dissuade the best candidates from standing for election, veteran Tory MP Roger Gale has warned.

Mr Gale, who has represented North Thanet for almost 27 years, said the banning of second home purchases and the setting of new limits for rental payments on flats could deter would-be politicians with young families.

He said: "We risk ending up with only young and inexperienced 'anorak' politicians or ones who are very rich, and that's not what Parliament wants."



CONCERN: Suzy and Roger Gale

"It wants people prepared to give up their careers when they are at the very top, but if they're going to do that it's got to be possible for them to do so financially."

According to rules introduced by the Independent Parliamentary Standards

Authority on Monday, MPs will also have to pay their own commuting fees and will no longer be able to claim for anything without a receipt. However, they will be allowed to continue employing relatives after a successful campaign led by Mr Gale's wife, Suzy, who is his fully-qualified executive PA and secretary.

Mr Gale, 66, said that while they welcomed the decision, it was one his spouse fought for on behalf of future partners of MPs.

He added: "I think it's a wise move but it's not about being happy or unhappy, it's about trying to make sure the Commons is a place that works practically for those coming after us. I'm not sure how many more elections I will fight and Suzy won't be continuing for more than five years anyway, so it doesn't affect us in the slightest."

"But we know from experience how valuable it can be to employ relatives and how well it works. It's also very good value for money."

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Drivers make a noise over crossing sale plan

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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ANGRY motorists sounded their horns in disapproval after Chancellor Alistair Darling revealed the Treasury was pressing ahead with plans to sell the Dartford Crossing.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown wants to raise £16 billion to reduce the Government's large budget deficit, and last year put the crossing forward as part of a portfolio of 'non-financial assets' he would be prepared to offload.

The plan was criticised by road-users and freight companies who feared any private owner would increase the toll charges, but Mr Darling confirmed during last week's Budget speech that Treasury officials were finalising options for the sale.

In response to the announcement, more than 5,000 motorists sounded their horns at the crossing last Friday as part of a campaign organised by Dartford's Lib Dem candidate James Willis.

He said: "It gave motorists who regularly use the crossing a chance to simply express their disgust at the plans.

"Clearly if it is privatised it cannot be free, so we must work together to fight the rip-off. The aim is to send a message to the next government that we will not tolerate pollution and an unjust toll.

"Our campaign is backed up by the reaction of Dartford residents, a thousand of whom have now signed our petition against the sale. This demonstrates the depth of local feeling."

You can visit www.stophedartfordcrossingripoffnow.com to sign the petition.

When the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge was built in 1991, the Conservative government of the time promised motorists they would no longer be charged to cross the Thames once the cost of construction had been met.

However, the tolls remained once the debt was cleared in 2003, and in late 2008 road-users were even hit with increased charges at certain parts of the day.

News of the impending sale also sparked concern among supporters of a proposed second Lower Thames Crossing to ease the pressures on the existing bridge.

But late last year Kent County Council revealed it had been told by Transport Secretary Lord Adonis that both crossings could be sold to a private company as one single asset, ensuring the viability of the proposed new facility.

Dartford's Tory candidate Gareth Johnson was "deeply disappointed" the Government was pressing ahead with the plans.

He added: "Selling off the crossing would have huge ramifications for Dartford.

"This government has shown a complete disregard for local residents when dealing with the crossing. Not only have they gone back on their promise of scrapping the tolls once the bridge has been paid for, they are finalising their plans to use the crossing to pay for its financial mismanagement.

"I shudder to think what this will do to the price of the tolls, and selling to a private company could make the hope of scrapping the tolls an almost impossible dream.

"It would complete the Government's catalogue of failure on the crossing and would be the price local residents are forced to pay for this Government's mountain of debt."



MESSAGE: Lib Dem James Willis with the crossing sale petition

A TRIAL banning heavy vehicles from overtaking on a stretch of the A20 near the Port of Dover came into force on Tuesday.

The aim is to reduce congestion, improve journey-time reliability and cut the risk of accidents caused by slow-moving vehicles.

Lorries of 7.5 tonnes or more will

be banned from overtaking on the uphill, two-mile westbound section of the A20 dual carriageway leaving the port. This is intended to free the outside lane for faster traffic, reducing congestion and cutting the risk of accidents.

The year-long trial will be made possible by a weight restriction on the outside lane.

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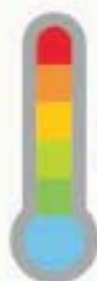
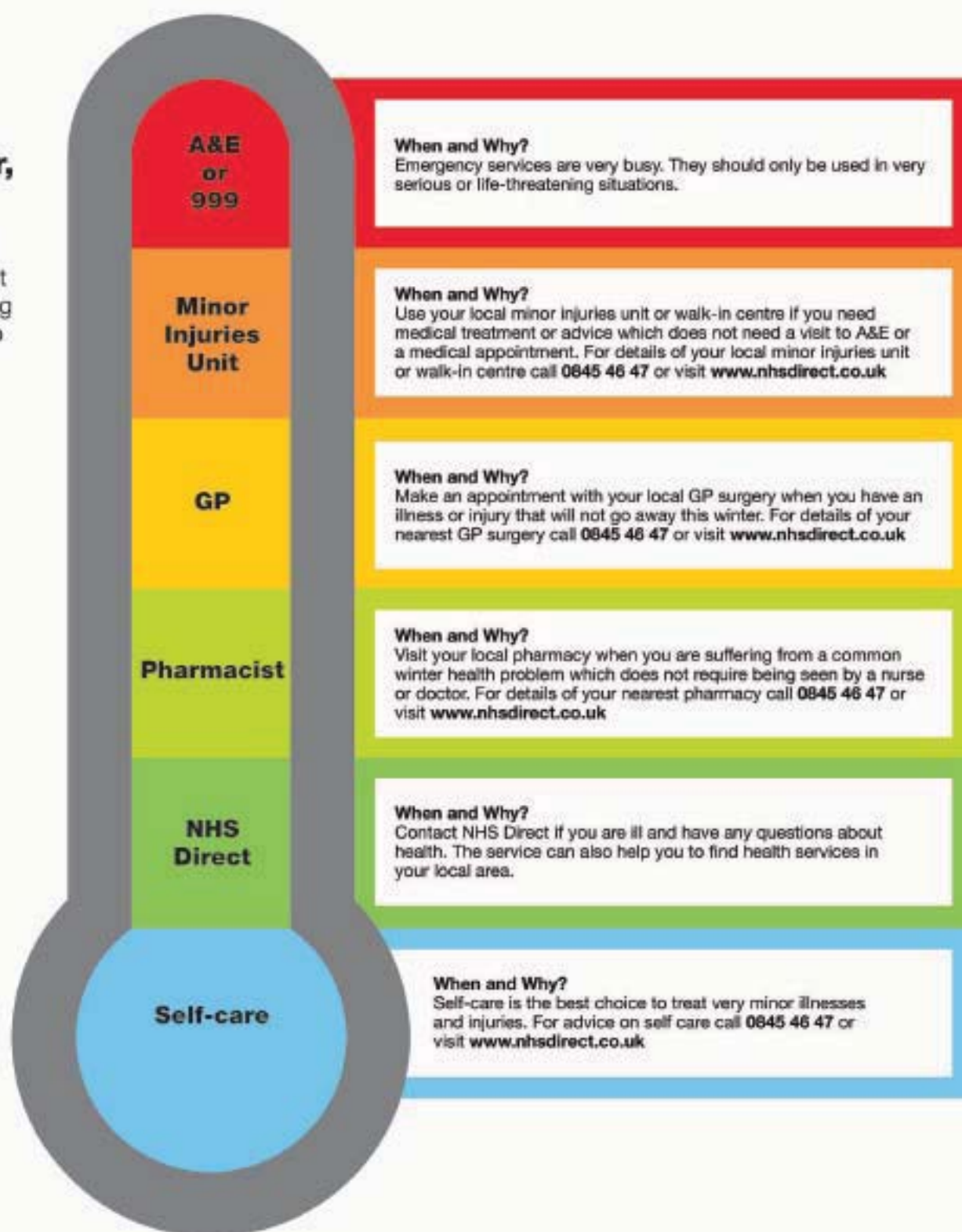


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End to Army hero's 50-year wait for medal

AN ARMY veteran who risked his life in two battle zones has finally received his medals, thanks to his MP.

John Collins served with the Royal West Kent Regiment, during the Suez Crises and then during political troubles in Cyprus between Britain, Greece and Turkey when the island was divided.

Mr Collins, 74, said: "I felt I deserved the medals – I had done my bit, but never got them, which was upsetting. I reckon they just forgot about me. I wrote a couple of times, but nothing ever happened,

and I resigned myself to never getting them.

"I was among the first to arrive in Egypt, and when the front section of the landing craft went down, you just go into automatic and don't think of the dangers. You just use your training."

Northern Ireland

Mr Collins attends the annual memorial service near his home in Sutton Valence, Maidstone, every year, and sees his local MP Hugh Robertson, himself a former

military man. The MP won an Army scholarship to university and was an officer for 10 years until 1995, serving in the Life Guards. He commanded the Household Cavalry for the 1993 Queen's Birthday Parade and State Opening of Parliament.

Mr Robertson saw active service in Northern Ireland, the Gulf War, Bosnia, and with the UN in Cyprus.

Mr Collins said: "I was chatting to Mr Robertson and he asked where I had served, and I told him. He then asked where my medals were, and I

told him they were never sent to me.

"Now after a 50-year wait, they are here, and I am delighted, but still a bit bit annoyed at waiting so long."

The General Service Medal was presented to the Army veteran by The Mayor of Maidstone in a ceremony in Sutton Valence.

Modest man

After enquiries at the House of Commons Library, Mr Robertson wrote to the Secretary of State for Defence and the Medal Office to confirm that Mr Collins was eligible.

After copies of his service record were obtained, the medal, a General Service Medal with bars for service in Cyprus and the Near East was delivered and presented.

Mr Robertson said: "Like many veterans, John is a modest and quiet man so it was a wonderful moment to see his face light up when the mayor presented him with his medal.

"Nobody is quite sure why he was not awarded the medal 50 years ago but it is great he has got it now and his three grandsons were there to see it awarded."

Lancaster's tragic last flight

Relative uncovers fate of crew of ME595 shot down over Germany

By **NICK AMES**

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RESEARCH into a wartime family death has led to an amateur historian uncovering the fate of the crews of RAF wartime Lancaster bombers who took to the skies on October 14, 1944.

Marc Hall set out to find what happened to his grandfather's cousin, Sgt Richard Wolsey, who was one of seven crew members who died when their aircraft was shot down a few miles north west of the target German city of Duisberg.

But as his research widened into examining all the raids that particular night he also uncovered the fate of a Kent airman whose aircraft went down in a raid on the city of Brunswick.

Fire

Sgt George Boyd of 61 Squadron, who lived in Sandwich, was wireless operator on the aircraft that was lost. "He was on board Lancaster ME595 which was hit by anti-aircraft fire on the bombing run and caught fire," said Mr Hall.

"All the seven crew managed to bail out but two of them were killed.

"One was Sgt George Boyd. He was injured in the aircraft by fragments of the flak shells and was helped out by another crewman. Unfortunately, George's parachute got caught on some-



KILLED: Sgt George Boyd died after his parachute failed to open properly

thing and unpacked in the aircraft.

"The chute could not be repacked and with the aircraft going down in flames, he had to just jump. Unfortunately it didn't deploy properly and he was killed."

One other member of the crew also died that night.

"Flight engineer Sgt Cyril Webb survived the bail out and was on the run for four days," said Mr Hall. "But he was captured by and murdered by the Germans, who shot him.

"The British captured the three suspects after the war and had them hanged in 1947 for war crimes.

"Sgt Webb and Sgt Boyd are buried side by side in the Hanover

war cemetery which is looked after by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission."

Mr Hall has managed to locate Sgt Boyd's brother Paddy, who lives in Deal, and has told him the story.

He has also spoken to the pilot of the lost Lancaster, Norman Hoad, who retired from the RAF with the senior rank of Air Vice Marshall.

Mr Hall has extended his research into all the bombers lost on that particular raid, visited crash sites in Germany of the aircraft that were lost, visited graves and spoken to relatives.

The RAF action that night was not wholly successful as cloud cover obscured much of the original target of Duisberg.

The city was one of the heaviest defended in Germany as it was a major port and industrial part of the Ruhr Valley. The targets were factories making war material along with chemical and steel plants.

So a second sortie took place the same evening and a total of 1,000 heavy bombers pounded the target – with more success as the weather had cleared.

Sgt Boyd's aircraft was part of a force of 230 bombers which attacked Brunswick on the same night, after having



been held in reserve for the main raid. It was the only aircraft lost in that particular action.

RAID: The crew of Lancaster ME595, shot down by anti-aircraft fire over Duisberg in 1944

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Port to play host to the Jewel in Saga's crown

ONE of the finest cruise ships to take to the high seas is calling at Dover within weeks to be prepared for its maiden voyage.

The Saga ship is aimed at the over 50s, and Saga Cruises was recently voted the best UK cruise line by Which? magazine.

The latest addition to the fleet, Saga Pearl II departs from Dover for the first time in May.

The company said the ship will offer 446 passengers an intimate cruise environment and a high crew-to-staff ratio.

The ship's £20 million refit in Swansea saw the creation of balcony cabins, a show lounge for classical concerts and sophisticated entertainment, a spa and two swimming pools.

The company said: "Saga passengers will be able to enjoy one of the best libraries afloat with 3,400 books, and the new elegant Veranda Restaurant offers superb gastronomic feasts."

"Saga Pearl II has the classical Saga ambi-

ence that customers enjoy without casinos, climbing walls and children's clubs."

Susan Hooper, chief executive of Saga Holidays said: "The Saga Pearl II is a lovely mid-sized ship offering an intimate atmosphere in a beautiful contemporary design and superb service."

"Each one of her voyages from Dover promises to be as memorable as the next with a focus on classic interesting destinations combined with some hidden gems closer to home."

For more information call 0800 056 5880.



Ready to pounce after change in miaow drug law

By **MARLIKE COX**

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CUSTOMS officers are ready to clamp down on smugglers trying to import party drug mephedrone through the county's borders.

It comes after Home Secretary Alan Johnson announced this week the substance could be made illegal by as soon as April 16, after recommendations by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD).

Mephedrone – also known as miaow miaow or MKat – is part of the cathinone drug group, developed from the active ingredient khat, taken from a North African plant.

It is either snorted or taken in pill form and is believed to have been responsible for seven deaths nationwide.

New research by the ACMD, however, suggests the true number is more likely to be 26. UK Border Agency staff at the Port of Dover and the Channel Tunnel in Folkestone have been notified of the upcoming changes and are getting ready to stamp out imports of the drug.

A spokeswoman admitted officers currently have no power to seize cathinone-based chemicals being brought into the county, due to medicine laws.

She said: "Mephedrone has previously been imported as 'plant feed' or 'bath salts' or products 'not for human consumption' in order to avoid medicines and poisons legislation under the Open General Import Licence (OGIL)."

"But the Home Secretary has excluded mephedrone and a range of similar chemicals from being eligible to import under OGIL."

"This means Border Agency officers can use Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 powers to seize any suspected imports."

Officers will also be able to destroy any shipments of the drug.

The spokeswoman added: "It is likely that by mid-April mephedrone and other cathinone derivatives will be controlled as a class B drug, making it a criminal offence to unlawfully import, export, supply, offer to supply, possess with intent to supply or be in simple possession of these substances."

Mephedrone – which swept the party scene in the last 18 months – can be bought legally for about £10 a gram, although some sellers are trying to get rid of stock by cutting prices to as little as £4.

Others are directing customers away from their websites due to media pressure over distribution.

The drug is most commonly bought via the internet, although some shops in the county do stock it under the guise of 'plant food'.

James (named changed), from Dover, bought mephedrone for a night out.

Anxious

"The bag said 'plant food – not for human consumption', but I knew that was what it was sold as," he said.

"I took it with friends and was fine for a couple of hours, I just felt wide awake, but after I got home I lay in bed and my heart started beating really fast."

"I couldn't sleep and was awake for 12 hours, feeling dazed and anxious. It was horrible, like a bad dream. It also left me feeling depressed for days. My friends had the same experience and we never took it again."

Sgt Ian Jones said Kent Police were educating young people about the harm mephedrone can cause. He said: "We are well equipped to deal with trends in drug use and can adapt to changes in the law immediately."

"Our advice is clear: do not take anything unless it has been prescribed for your use by your doctor."

The NHS logo, consisting of the letters 'NHS' in white on a blue rectangular background.A photograph of three people laughing heartily. In the foreground, a man with brown hair is laughing with his mouth open. Behind him, a man with a shaved head is also laughing. To the right, a woman with blonde hair is laughing. They appear to be in a group setting, possibly a support group or a social gathering.

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SMOKEFREE

Foundation is searching to uncover 10 Animal Heroes

THE Aspinall Foundation is giving 10 children the opportunity to become Animal Heroes.

Eager to inspire budding performers and roving reporters, auditions to become an Animal Hero will take place at the foundation's Port Lympne Wild Animal Park between April 2-18, where children aged three-16 will be eligible to enter.

Ten Animal Heroes will be cho-

sen to be ambassadors for the charity, help to promote the work carried out by the Aspinall Foundation and star in campaigns to encourage the next generation of conservationists.

They will also receive prizes including a VIP tour around Maidstone Studios and an annual Port Lympne pass.

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Bird-brained way to detect human wiring

WHY did the chicken cross the road? Because scientists had already sequenced its DNA and it wanted to meet the zebra finch has joined it as the only birds on the planet to undergo such research, **writes Chris Murphy.**

Darren Griffin, professor of genetics at the school of biosciences at the University of Kent, is one of an international group of scientists to have mapped the small bird's genome.

The chicken was completed in 2004 and scientists say this new work will help them better understand how humans work.

The research was published by Nature magazine.

The team said the work offers a unique opportunity to understand the genetics behind the wiring and re-wiring of the human brain during learning and memory, as well as many other individual features such as immunity and fertility.

It was no straightforward task though. Teams from across the USA, Europe and the Middle East, including seven UK-based research groups, have contributed to the project.

Prof Griffin said: "One of our key findings was the genetic basis of a lot



RESEARCH: Prof Darren Griffin

of the variation between chickens and zebra finches.

"Clearly the two birds are very different, but the evidence we had before suggested their genomes were very similar. In fact, we now have a clear idea of why this is not the case.

"The chicken was a great start for genomic studies because of the agricultural and embryology angle.

"In evolution chickens are a bit out on a limb and the zebra finch is a much better representative of the majority of birds.

"From here, we can use the infor-

mation and tools that we have developed to study many aspects of bird evolution and ecology."

Prof Douglas Kell, the chief executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, said: "Genome data like these are extremely valuable and it is really important to fulfil the potential of such information.

"There is considerable excellence in the UK in bioinformatics and we are thinking hard about how best to make these large collections of data available for researchers."

The science teams said zebra finches and other songbirds have one important thing in common with humans: they learn how to converse with one another, which is rare in other animals.

Chickens do not demonstrate this kind of vocalisation and so a comparison between the zebra finch and chicken genomes has helped to identify where the genes directly involved in vocal learning are located.

It has been known for a while that listening to songs turns genes on or off in certain areas of the brain of a zebra finch.

This project has shown that there are also important changes in what the genome actually produces when a young male zebra finch first learns his song from an adult tutor.

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YOUNG asylum-seekers detained at Dover are being denied basic care during "unlawful" interviews with customs officers, says a new report, *writes Steve Knight*.

The Refugee and Migrant Justice (RMJ) charity says many children are refused food, rest and medicine until after they have completed "oppressive" grillings with UK Border Agency (UKBA) staff.

In its report – Safe at Last? Children on the Front Line of Border Control – the organisation also alleges young migrants do not have access to legal or adult representatives, nor translators.

Chief executive Caroline Slocock said: "Unaccompanied children coming into Dover arrive hungry, cold and often ill, having travelled for months in situations of great danger – fleeing countries like Afghanistan.

"Their welcome is an interview by the Border Agency that often puts welfare at risk and is used to gather information that is later used against them. Such interviews – carried out without an independent adult or legal representative present, and sometimes without the right interpreters – would be entirely

Battle over 'illegal' interviews of child asylum seekers

unacceptable anywhere else in Britain. Children should not be treated in this way."

RMJ says it first raised concerns about the 'illegal' interviews in March, 2009, when its Does Every Child Matter? report alleged the UKBA was failing in both the principle and practice of protecting the welfare of young asylum-seekers, as set out in the agency's own code of practice.

The charity claims at least 20 interviews take place every month involving children as young as 12, but believes the figure could be much higher.

Mrs Slocock said: "They say the interviews

are intended to help protect children but, on the ground, unacceptable treatment continues. Children seeking asylum should be given care first, not subjected to questioning.

"We are taking this to the courts but in the meantime believe the interviews should stop."

Sixteen-year-old asylum-seeker Zubeir says he entered Dover suffering from a leg injury caused by a bomb explosion in his native Afghanistan, as well as stab wounds.

However, he claims the UKBA interviewers showed little concern for his welfare and instead continued to ask him questions.

He said: "I kept apologising and said I was

feeling very ill from my journey and that I needed help and treatment, but they kept asking me lots of questions. After the interview I was told to wait for some hours. They did not tell me I could see a doctor and I was never asked if I wanted one."

RMJ has now applied to the High Court requesting a judicial review of the interviews, and on their use in the decision-making processes that later affect a child's asylum claim.

However, UKBA strategic director for protection Hugh Ind said it was not true youngsters were denied basic needs such as rest, food or medicine.

He said: "We have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are in the UK and we take this duty very seriously. To ascertain a child's welfare we need to speak to them and therefore an initial interview is necessary.

"We will continue to ensure vulnerable children are referred to child welfare agencies or the police as soon as possible. Our staff and interpreters have clear guidance on how to conduct interviews and comply with a code of conduct."

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GOING DOWN:
The first chimney
stack on the way

INSET: Job done



Landmarks take a big tumble

THIS is the moment Kent's skyline changed for ever as two giant chimney stacks were brought crashing to the ground.

The pair of 550ft chimneys came down in seconds last weekend with the detonation of well-placed explosives.

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The demolition took place at the Lafarge Cement site in Northfleet, near Gravesend.

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homes, shops and a riverside promenade – a far cry from the heavy industry for the past 200 years.

The firm also has plans to build an aggregates import terminal at the former cement works, which shut in 2008. This part of the project will create about 100 jobs.

Company official David Simms said: "Our vision is to reconnect Northfleet with the riverside, revitalise job opportunities and regenerate derelict land."

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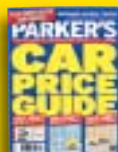
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MARCH 31, 1990, is remembered by some as one of the defining moments of Margaret Thatcher's premiership, *writes Steve Knight*.

That was the day thousands gathered in Trafalgar Square to protest – and later riot – about the infamous poll tax that Mrs Thatcher's Conservative government had forced upon every household in the country.

But despite the fires, looting and violence of that day, there are still many who were involved in the riots – such as Class War founder Ian Bone – who recall them with pleasure.

Mr Bone, who grew up as the son of a butler in Goudhurst, near Maidstone, became a tabloid hate figure for his role in the anarchist group.

He said: "The poll tax was unfair and people were determined not to pay it. The newspapers said some people were offered money to take part in the riots, but nobody needed any inducement.

"People don't believe it now, but it was like a carnival and I had a great time. And the best thing was we won for once.

"I was ready to storm Downing Street and drag Thatcher out and it probably could have been done, because the police lost control. People were so angry about the tax there wasn't much the police could have done."

The poll tax – or community charge – represented the abolition of rates based on the value of a property, and the introduction of a fixed charge per adult.

Critics pointed out that under the system, a millionaire living on his own would be paying less than the average family.

However, the riots of March 31 along with an anti-payment campaign persuaded Thatcher's successor John Major to replace the levy with council tax in 1993.

Mr Bone said: "I'm proud of what we achieved that day and believe we were instrumental in bringing Thatcher down.

"It proved that direct action on the streets can be better than voting on polling day, because when the mob turns against you there's nothing you can do."

Class War advocated violent revolution through its newspaper and was active through most of the 1980s and 90s and organised 'Bash the Rich' events.

However, it was the poll tax riots that brought the group to prominence and even resulted in a television interview for Mr Bone with Jonathan Ross.

Mr Bone said: "You'd have thought I'd enjoy becoming a minor celebrity, but it wasn't that great.

"The police basically fingered Class War and the people behind it for being responsible for the riots, and a lot of people went down for throwing bricks and stuff.

"As for Jonathan Ross, I had no fear because I was completely drunk and can't remember a thing we talked about."

Poll tax anarchy in the UK rocked Thatcher's world



IAN BONE: 'The police lost control and gave up'



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MARIJKE COX looks at the all-male race to become our next chief constable



SELECTION: Giles York, Simon Ash, Simon Cole and Alfred Hitchcock, and Ian Learmonth, who is not pictured, make up the shortlist

'High calibre candidates'

FIVE of the UK's top police officers have been selected as potential candidates for the position of Kent's new chief constable.

The hopefuls were chosen from a list of eight applicants by the Kent Police Authority's appointments panel and now must face an intense two-day interview before a final decision is made in May.

Ann Barnes, chair of the authority, said the selection process for the £150,000-a-year job was "extremely difficult" but believes these candidates have what it takes to fill the role, which was left open following Mike Fuller's move to be HM Chief Inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service last month.

Mrs Barnes said the standard of applicants for the chief constable's job at Kent Police was outstanding, making the task of drawing up the shortlist difficult.

She said: "We had a high number of applicants for this sort of job – Kent is a very popular force and this county is like no other when it comes to policing."

Mrs Barnes said the mix of urban and rural communities creates real challenges for Kent Police and its chief constable.

"This combination means different sorts of policing are needed," she said.

"We've also got millions of people coming through the county because of the port and the Channel tunnel, which can bring so much misery through organised crime. I think Kent is one of the hardest counties to police so it's vital we choose the right person."

Mrs Barnes said the prospective chief constable will be faced with a number of challenges, including financial cutbacks, with a potential loss of £20 million from its budget over the next few years.

But she stressed the calibre of the appli-

cants fills her with confidence and she admits to being in no doubt that each candidate would be good for the job.

"The shortlisted candidates really understand the challenges of policing this wonderful county of ours," she said.

Deputy chief constable Adrian Leppard will take on the job temporarily until the position is filled at the beginning of August.

Mr Leppard had been expected to apply for the role permanently after the Kent Police Authority said it would seek an exemption to rules which state a senior officer who has been deputy and assistant chief constable is unable to apply for the top job at the same force.

But Mrs Barnes confirmed that Mr Leppard, who missed out on the chief constable position at Norfolk Constabulary in January, did not apply. However, he said he was delighted to be appointed the role of temporary chief constable.

"There are exciting and challenging opportunities ahead, including our ongoing commitment to listen to the people of Kent and Medway and deal with the issues that really matter to them," he said.

Shortlist

- Giles York, 43, is Deputy Chief Constable for Sussex Police. He started his career in Kent in 1990 and has served as Area Commander of Medway, and Head of Special Branch at Kent Police.

- Ian Learmonth, 52, is Deputy Chief Constable for Norfolk Police. He has been a serving police officer since 1976 and served at two other UK police forces before joining Norfolk Constabulary.

- Simon Ash, 49, is Chief Constable of Suffolk Police. He originally began his career at Kent Police in 1982.

- Simon Cole, 43, is Deputy Chief

THE chair of the Kent Police Authority has admitted she was disappointed that only one woman applied for the job of Kent chief constable.

Ann Barnes, pictured, said it showed the force is still a male-dominated profession and confessed she had hoped more female officers would have applied.



"Only one woman went for the job and she didn't make the shortlist," she said. "I was disappointed there were not more female candidates. Unfortunately there are very few women in senior positions. There has never been a female chief constable at Kent Police."

Mrs Barnes said she has been working towards improving the progression of women within the force. In 2006, a gender strategy group was set up to address the matter.

But Mrs Barnes admitted that to go for the chief constable job, the candidate would have to have completed a Senior Command Course, which is only available for officers at chief superintendent level, of which there is only one woman in Kent Police.

Currently, there are 1,036 female officers – with the highest-ranking officer being Detective Chief Superintendent Debbie Doe.

Mrs Barnes said: "Women can reach these levels, but progression is tough."

"The situation is improving. We now have more women going through the promotion barriers so we are cracking the obstacles."

"We've taken positive action to change the situation and I think it is working."

Before leaving his position as chief constable, Mike Fuller said a modern responsive police service needs a range of opinions and experience that only a balanced workforce can provide.

"Since 1978, we have increased the number of female officers by more than 350 per cent," he said. "Women work across a variety of roles in the force, such as forensics, emergency response, firearms and investigation."

Constable for Hampshire Police. He joined Hampshire Police in 2003 as Assistant Chief Constable having previously served in West Midlands Police since 1988.

- Alfred Hitchcock, 51, from Lancashire, is Deputy Chief Constable and Head of the National College of Police Leadership and National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA). He has over 30 years' experience in policing.

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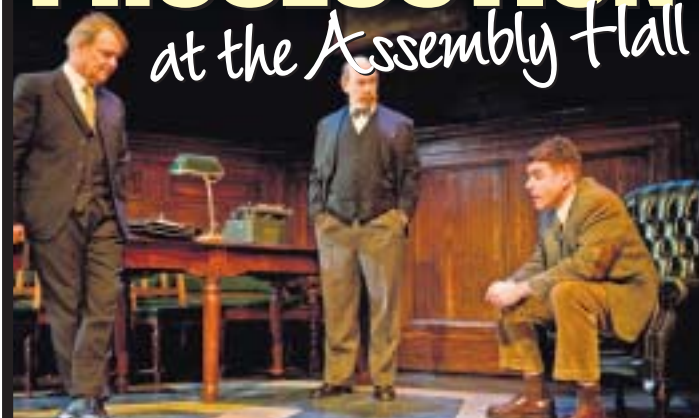
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Can we handle winter better?

A CONSULTATION is to be held to look at the authorities' response to the icy onslaught that brought Kent's transport network to its knees, *writes Steve Knight*.

Roads were gridlocked, ferries delayed and trains cancelled during the worst winter weather in more than 30 years, resulting in the county council declaring three 'snow emergencies' between December and February.

Operation Stack

Following a review of how well the authority coped during the big freeze, district and parish councils have now been asked to give their views and suggest future improvements.

A high-level meeting with the police, Highways Agency, Eurotunnel and ferry oper-

ators will also be held to discuss the problems caused by Operation Stack on the M20.

Cabinet member for the environment Cllr Nick Chard told KOS Media the results of the consultation, to start in April, would help shape the council's 2010-11 winter service plan.

He added: "I'm going to be asking for any improvements they would like to see that will not have a negative impact on council tax.

"I would like to put forward some suggestions about how we can deal with very isolated communities – like perhaps giving them their own stock of salt for the roads."

Cllr Chard's winter service review revealed that between October and December, almost 13,700 tonnes of salt were used on Kent's roads, compared to an average of just over 8,100 tonnes during the same period for the previous four years.

It is estimated that a total of 35,000 tonnes

will have been used between October and the end of this month.

During the cold snap, workmen at the council's maintenance contractor Ringway were put on 24-hour duty, while Kent Highway Services staff worked weekends.

Salting trucks were also deployed to the steep A229 and A249 roads leading in and out of Maidstone, with the routes being constantly patrolled to keep them clear.

Improvements

Cllr Chard said: "I think the county coped very well with the weather, but of course there were also things we should have done better."

Despite Cllr Chard's praise of the roads response, his report acknowledges rail services were badly hit during the freezing weather.

There were 100 instances where Southeastern train services were significant-



Picture: DAN SMITH

SNOW JOKE: Road-users coped last winter

ly delayed, with the average delay lasting one hour 20 minutes, and the longest seven hours.

He also refers to the problems caused by Eurostar trains that broke down in the Channel Tunnel in December, as well as the traffic problems that followed Operation Stack.

A date has not yet been set for the meeting to discuss the problem, which will also be attended by Dover council and Dover Harbour Board.

Cllr Chard said: "Operation Stack creates a huge problem. Improvements can be made."

To see this clip search 'travel'
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Join the thousands who went to
KOS Media's successful third
Travel and Leisure Show

Travel show a boost for Kent tourism

MORE than 4,000 visitors flocked to KOS Media's third Travel and Leisure Show at the Dover Cruise Terminal on Sunday to see the best tourism opportunities in the county.

Exhibitors enjoyed a brisk trade, including the cruise lines, with Fred. Olsen still taking bookings after the show had officially closed.

All the major cruise lines were represented, and there was a large representation from ferry operators, and tourist attractions in France.

Kent International Airport staff were busy all day with enquiries about flights from Manston.

The best of Kent's attractions also saw large groups of visitors to their stands. Many reported running out of brochures early in the afternoon.

Coach companies also did good business and the presentation theatre was busy all day, holding presentations on topics from local attractions, to the Galapagos Islands.

This year, representatives from

inbound group tour operators also visited the show.

Exhibitors were pleased at the way their presentations were received and agreed it was important to highlight the variety and standard of tourism opportunities in the county.

Chief executive of Dover District Chamber of Commerce, David Foley, said: "This was a splendid event which put a much-needed focus on Dover and the surrounding district.

"With tourism responsible for

eight per cent of the national economy, we need to ensure we attract as many people as we can to Kent.

"Events such as this are an excellent way of outlining the virtues of the county."

At the show there were over 30 prizes to be won that were drawn at the end, and these included a two-week cruise with Fred. Olsen.

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Symptom of our ailing economy

NO-ONE will be surprised to hear NHS chiefs are working to identify massive savings after a Government freeze on health spending.

Getting through such a deep recession was never going to be easy and most people have got used to the idea that changes have to be made if the country is to move forward.

And these changes must happen regardless of who is in power after the general election.

But with people living longer and long-term illnesses more common, the health service is as crucial as ever.

Whoever wins the election is going to face the same challenge. And cuts to the health service is a big one. Everyone wants the reassurance that the treatment we or our loved ones need will be there if and when we need it – and the NHS will be there to provide it.

But cuts to public services are going to happen, whether we like it or not, before things are going to get any better.

We could be in for a rough ride.

Raining champs

SPRING is truly upon us, with lambs gambolling in the fields, daffodils in the garden and the return of the Easter bunny.

The dreadful weather may well be trying to tell a different story, but let's do what we Britons always do – grab a brolly, wrap up warm and welcome in the springtime.

Happy Easter to all our readers from everyone at KOS Media.

OPINION:

IT'S THAT time of year when parents call me or visit my website to ask about supporting them in an infant class school appeal.

Many are taken aback when I explain that, in the vast majority of cases, although parents have a legal right to appeal and the local authority is obliged to tell them their rights, they have no chance of success.

Regulations – known as infant class legislation – compel schools to keep class sizes restricted to 30 or fewer, with one class teacher, except for certain very specific and rare exceptions.

The number of additional teaching assistants is irrelevant.

Independent panels are instructed not to uphold appeals that would take such class sizes over 30 children, again with rare exceptions.

The main one is where the admissions authority, usually the county council but, in the case of foundation or voluntary-aided schools the governing body, has made an error in ranking the children so that someone has been omitted by mistake.

The regulations can be found at www.dcsf.gov.uk/sacode.

Occasionally an appeals panel will be swung by powerful mitigating circumstances to uphold a case against the rules (there has been a spate of twins sent to different schools recently), but continued pressure from above is likely to see even these decisions diminished. The penalty for the school if the class size of 30 is breached can be severe.

Why class size does matter

There are 30 reasons why your infant school appeal is destined to fail, education adviser Peter

Read warns anxious parents

ferent schools recently), but continued pressure from above is likely to see even these decisions diminished. The penalty for the school if the class size of 30 is breached can be severe.

An appeals panel decision is binding, so there is nothing the school can do immediately.

However, if there are still over 30 children in the class the following September, the school must either employ another full-time teacher to work with that class, or else divide it into two smaller groups each with their own teacher. As you can imagine, either option is a great expense and difficulty for a school, even if it has the room to put in another class.

Sometimes there are mixed-age classes and you may see an intake of 20 children (with three year groups combining to form two classes) or 45 children (with two year groups combining to form three classes).

Otherwise, if the number is not an exact factor, as in some small rural schools, there may be chances of a successful appeal.

Also at this time of year we see problems caused by admissions

to church primary schools. The 104 voluntary controlled Church of England and Methodist schools in Kent have a box to be ticked if parents "have chosen the school because it is a church school" irrespective of the parents' religion or beliefs, if any.

This is a bureaucratic nonsense, has nothing to do with religion and should be abolished, as every year it creates unnecessary grief from parents who didn't tick the box, and find their child sent to a school miles away.

Or even more poignantly, the churchgoing family who actually chose the school for other reasons, but then find themselves excluded from their own church school.

This device does not give priority to a single Christian to attend the school (there is no bar on devil worshippers ticking the box) and it is time for the Church authorities to take action.

My advice to every parent is tick the box. Even more bewildering to parents are the 68 CofE and Catholic voluntary aided schools each allowed to draw up individual priority lists of applicants, generally featuring church

membership in some way, occasionally bizarrely or ambiguously, although several also give a priority to members of other religions. Such schools are often in rural areas and have become aided for some distant historical reason, depriving children of non-religious families places at their local schools.

The Government plans to increase the number of faith schools, on the grounds they are likely to be better schools, although the evidence is where they are popular and successful it is because aspiring middle classes have access to them.

This is because many such parents are either churchgoers or are willing to undergo a temporary affiliation. A Kent aided school, recently out of special measures with an intake of just four children last year, is not unique and counters the argument.

• **Peter J Read is an independent education adviser – www.kentadvice.co.uk**



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Service is just rubbish

On Monday, March 15, Bromley Council's refuse collectors dumped a black wheelie-bin on the grass verge in front of my hedge, but still within the boundary of my property.

I left the bin, expecting it to be collected during my next refuse collection on the 21st. But I was annoyed to find the bin still on my property after the refuse collectors had been along my road. When I moved the bin I could see why it had been dumped as one of the wheels was broken.

Isn't it hypocritical of any council when so many are issuing punitive fines for home owners not complying with regulations, to dump their own rubbish on private land?

Alan Baker, Westerham

Do you remember?

Having been on leave and amongst the huge crowd in London on May 8, 1945, [VE Day] I was pleased to see the local National Trust are commemorating the 65th anniversary of that unforgettable event with a dinner, dance and cabaret on May 7 this year at Sidcup.

Are there any other readers who climbed lamp posts to get a better view of the King and Queen and Winston Churchill, or saw the bonfires in Hyde Park fuelled by doors from the hotels where some Americans were billeted?

Derek Allen (ex-Royal Marines), Bromley

KCC is off the rails

I attended the much heralded KCC rail summit last week on behalf of Gwyn Prosser, our MP, as well as Deal Town Council.

I am not confident that our concerns are being heard. Much of the discussion was about problems with the train service from Maidstone and the only mention of East Kent came when we were told about an ambition to develop a new station near

Make foreign truckers pay

In response to your article by Steve Knight, with which I totally agree, charging foreign trucks is something that should be done straight away.

As an HGV driver myself I travel to southern Germany weekly and it costs my company approximately 250 euros in tolls each trip, which our counterparts in Germany don't pay, so let's have a level playing field. As I see it, Great Britain is an island, so it would be easy to enforce at any given port as either a day-to-day price or mileage price.

As for MP Paul Clark to say there is

no difference, it is typical of politicians putting their heads in the sand.

We have just experienced the coldest and longest winter, with potholes on every road which will need money to repair. This should not have to come from local taxation. There are no pot holes in Germany as they have pots of money to spend on their roads.

So come on government, open your eyes to a money-making system, instead of milking us every winter for more funds.

*Mr R Staples,
Hythe*

Manston Airport. The concerns expressed about the need to bring the high-speed train to Deal and Sandwich, as well as the need to reduce journey times, were dismissed as minor operational problems.

We will have to keep the pressure on to make sure KCC and the rail operators understand that proper rail services in East Kent are not just about building a new station in Thanet.

Ben Bano, Deputy Mayor of Deal

Hang the re-offenders

I was concerned by your front page article headed 'Huge impact of dumping cons', about the high re-offending rate of ex-cons.

One way to reduce this would be to execute persistent offenders. The scheme could work

something like this: criminals over 18 should be given points like on a driving licence. For example, one point for a non-violent offence, five for a violent or sexual offence and 15 for murder. Once they've scored, for example, 30 points, they should be automatically executed (unless they are mentally ill, of course). If they have already scored 30 points they should be told five or more and you hang.

This would do two things. Most criminals would stop re-offending rather than be executed, so crime would fall. Those who carried on re-offending would be executed and no longer able to offend, so crime would soon fall dramatically.

Statistics show that crime has been falling for some years. However, even at its reduced rate, crime is still nine times higher than it was in the 50s, so drastic action is required.

Just about every opinion poll taken since

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

the death penalty was abolished in the 1960s has shown that by far the majority of people want it restored.

Marc Hurstfield, Northfleet

Free speech for Nigel

Mr Farage, after insulting the EU president and another country, said he was only exercising his right to free speech.

And in your very generous review of his book he is quoted as saying, "I speak my mind and expect some back."

So here goes: I think he is an arrogant, publicity-seeking clot and his party are a bunch of half-baked self-styled patriots. I suspect many are ex-Tories on their way to the BNP. Farage's book's title should be changed from Fighting Bull to Floundering Half-Wit. I am only being rude because he said he expected it.

Jack Olivet, Faversham

Restaurant is hot stuff

With reference to your article 'Still rising from the ashes', a restaurant review by Tom Betts on March 14. My husband and I are amazed at the negativity.

We dined at The Minnis on March 9, and enjoyed an excellent meal, which included a blue fillet steak that was cooked to perfection – a thing many chefs seem unable to do.

Like Mr Betts' fellow diner, I also had scallops, mussels and prawns as my main. There was an abundance of prawns and scallops – it was delicious.

We have recently dined at the three-star Michelin restaurant at The Dorchester and are regulars at the Michelin star restaurant at Reades in Faversham and feel able to give an objective opinion.

We feel this report was unfortunate and bore no resemblance to our experience.

Angela Drummond, Minster

Letters continued on page 30



EXCLUSIVE READER OFFERS



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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ANDERSON

Adam and Lucy would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Daisy Adela Anderson, born on 15th March 2010 at 9.49am, 7lb 4oz, at the Darent Valley Hospital. She is our little miracle. With special thanks to all of our family XX.

BARNES

Carrie-Ann and Jamie of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Jack Clifford Barnes, born on 11th March 2010 at QEQM Hospital. Brother to Brandon.

BINGHAM-SMITH

Nathan Michael born on 17th March 2010 weighing 7lb 10oz. Son to James and Amy, baby brother to Niamh. Thank you for making our family complete.

BLANCHARD

Georgina and Neil are proud to announce the birth of Ethan Dennis Blanchard born on 18th March 2010 at Pembury Hospital.

CHALLINOR-PETTIT

Daniella and Michael welcome their daughter Ava-Lula to the world. Ava-Lula was born at 4.32pm on 7th March 2010 just in time for all the important family anniversaries.

CRITTENDEN

Ryan Gavin born on 20th March 2010, weighing 6lb 9oz. Son to Gavin and Becky Crittenden in Maidstone.

DANIEL

Jenny and Mathew would like to announce the birth of Rosie Anna Daniels born on 21st March 2010 weighing 6lbs 9ozs, our third little Angel.

EMPTAGE

Karen and Owen Emptage celebrate the birth of their daughter Lexie Rose Emptage on 19th March 2010.

GROOMBRIDGE

Rosie Louise born on 23rd March 2010, weighing 10lbs 2.5oz. Beautiful daughter of Lee and Louise Groombridge.

LILLY

Cheri and Nathan are ecstatic to announce the arrival of their daughter Tia Peaches Lilly, who was born on 23rd February 2010. Very proud Grandparents are Suzanne, Lisa, Lee, and proud Great Grandparents are Dennis, Jo and Patricia and first time Great Uncle Chris.

McGUIRK

Jasmine Anne was born on 8th March 2010 weighing 6lbs 9ozs. Beautiful daughter to Mike and Kate.

MITCHELL

Freddie Jason Mitchell born on 13th March 2010 weighing 7lb 5oz. Son to Jason Mitchell and Hayley Mumford in Dartford.

NESBIT

Michelle Thompson and Daniel Nesbit celebrate the birth of their son Leo George Nesbit on 23rd March 2010.

DEATHS

BROWN

Lavinia Violet of Maidstone passed away on 21st March 2010. Graveside funeral on Tuesday 6th April at Maidstone Cemetery at 11.00am. Friends welcome afterwards for a celebration of life drink at the Wheatsheaf Public House, Sutton Road.

CRAYDEN

Barbara Ann Crayden of Walderslade passed away on 28th March 2010. Enquiries to T. Allen Funeral Service, Rochester 01634 818120.

HAMBROOK

Jenny passed away peacefully after an extremely brave fight on 25th March 2010 at home. Enquiries to High and Sons, 1 Bayford Road, Sittingbourne. Tel: 01795 472958.

METCALFE

LVO OBE

Peggy died peacefully at home on 23rd March 2010. Much loved cousin, "aunt" and good friend to all. Funeral at St Georges, Benenden, on Tuesday 6th April at 2.30pm. No flowers but donations to Hospice in the Weald.

SAUNDERS

Eva May died peacefully on Saturday 27th March 2010. Funeral at St Michaels Church, Hythe, 9th April at 1.15. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever. Flowers to Hambrook & Johns.

SMART

The family are sad to announce the death of Keith Smart who died on Friday 19th March 2010 at home. All enquiries please to the Funeral Directors Freemans of Maidstone.

STURGESS

Louie Ethel Sturgess of Minster, Ramsgate, passed away on 24th March 2010. Enquiries to Coles Funeral Directors, Minster, 01843 821253.

TUBMAN

On 22 March 2010 Eric James Tubman, aged 91 years, passed away peacefully at Cliffdene Methodist Home in Whitstable. Eric leaves treasured memories with daughters Sally and Jane, families, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Sally and Jane would like to thank all the staff at Cliffdene and Eric's GP Dr Buchanan for all the care and attention. The funeral took place on Thursday 1st April at Barham Crematorium followed by a service at Whitstable United Reformed Church. If desired donations to the RNLI by contacting C W Lyons of Oxford Street, Whitstable.

WILLIS

Ray Willis passed away suddenly on the 23rd March 2010. Funeral will be held at Hawkinge Crematorium on 8th April 2010 at 11.00am.

administered to these animals, so they continue to have more children just to feel the power of being able to hurt and control.

There are no deterrents for these people they thrive on inflicting pain, especially to children.

Lock them up and throw away the key, no other punishment is befitting to these heinous crimes.

C Russell, Ramsgate

Stripping us bare

Your report 'Brown's Kent Battlefield' (March 28) states that job creation is one important issue for the PM and his cronies.

Unfortunately the Labour Party has only excelled themselves at creating jobs for foreigners, as we see at Thanet Earth, the London Array wind farm and many other places elsewhere as well.

They have, however, been even more successful in creating vast amount of jobs in central and eastern Europe.

Along with the Tory Party and the Lib Dems, Labour has been quite happy to allow the EU at Brussels to grab more than £300 million from British taxpayers every week, and for it to be used by EU Regional Funding agencies to pay for the export of jobs from the UK to eastern Europe.

Car makers, food and confectionary manufacturers, clothing makers, cosmetic companies, healthcare products and most types of consumer goods production have been moved to Poland and other eastern European countries for cheap labour costs and bigger profits.

Voting for the Labour Party, Tories or Lib-Dems in the forthcoming elections will only allow more of the same until the EU has stripped this country bare and we have absolutely nothing left.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Searching for family

Would anyone have any knowledge of or be related to Robert Henham Wickham?

He is found marrying Ann Osborn in London in 1802 at St Martin in the Fields and they went on to have one son, George, and five daughters.

Robert was a stonemason and oral history says he went to South Africa to do work for the British Government and fell overboard on the return journey. Ann went to the USA to live in 1837.

Also oral history says he was born in Barming and his maternal's name was Sarah. Robert was my paternal great-great-great-grandfather and if he was from the Barming area I am hopeful that someone can help.

My email address is cymf@bigpond.com or write to PO Box 300, Cooktown 4895, Queensland, Australia.

Lynette McCollum

Help us make change

Are you a cancer patient, or perhaps you have a relative who is recovering from or currently being treated for cancer? Have you found it a struggle to return to work or had to give up your job completely as a result of having cancer?

Research by Macmillan Cancer Support has found that nearly 60 per cent of people with cancer have had to reduce their hours, make changes to their work or give it up entirely. Out of these people, four in five were not warned about the impact cancer would have on their career.

Macmillan wants cancer to be a priority for the coming election and we believe one of the main concerns for the political parties should be providing more support to help cancer survivors return to work.

Every year more than 106,000 people of working age in the UK are diagnosed with cancer.

Help us paint a picture of the types of problems that prevent these people returning to work, so political parties take notice and look to make changes for the future.

If you would like to share your story please

contact us on 020 8222 9028 or email us your story, with a daytime telephone number, to kchaytor@macmillan.org.uk.

Katy Chaytor
Regional Communications Officer
Macmillan Cancer Support

Red Cross needs you

As a journalist reporting on major events like the Lockerbie plane crash or Omagh bombings, I witnessed the British Red Cross in action – they were there helping people affected and, much more importantly, were going to stick around long after the media had left, to help put people's lives back together again.

I've also met the Red Cross time and time again when working in Africa, South America and Asia. I have seen what they do firsthand and that is why I support the charity.

Every year, the British Red Cross has one week of intensive fundraising called Red Cross Appeal Week.

This year it takes place from May 2-8 and is a fantastic opportunity for us to get involved and support the Red Cross to do what it does so well.

Sign up to shake a bucket and collect during Red Cross Appeal Week, or get more creative and be sponsored to sit in a bath of baked beans, or dye your hair red.

With just a little help from you, the British Red Cross can raise the funds it needs to be there in a crisis and help vulnerable people, whoever and wherever they are.

To fundraise this Red Cross Appeal Week, visit redcross.org.uk/appealweek or call 0844 412 2811.

So far this year, the British Red Cross has been supporting people affected by severe weather in the UK, the earthquake in Haiti and hundreds of other crises that don't make the news. With a little help from you, the Red Cross can continue to be there.

Michael Buerke
Journalist, broadcaster and
British Red Cross supporter

Help make a difference

As an Ambassador of the UK's leading volunteering and training charity I know the invaluable role of volunteers in this country and the benefits to volunteers themselves in getting involved in community projects.

Did you know that this year across the UK thousands of people will be giving up their time to create urban community allotments, clear up grot-spots, spruce up community gardens or protect endangered wildlife such as bats, bees and butterflies?

The UN have proclaimed 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity.

A great way to go green and participate in biodiversity projects is by signing up with CSV's environmental volunteering campaign CSV Action Earth, supported by Morrisons.

Action Earth and Morrisons are funding £50 grants – available now – for people who have an idea that will improve their local environment – it will help to get a project up and running and could pay for tools, seeds or even hot soup for cold volunteers.

Last year volunteers improved land equivalent to the size of 80 football pitches, and planted 45,000 shrubs, seeds and plants. Let's make this year another chart-topping success.

To sign up or get more information call CSV on 0121 328 7455 or visit www.csv.org.uk or http://www.actionearth.org.uk/ to find the nearest registered activity to you.

Pete Waterman
CSV Action Earth

Why was he there?

After watching the debate between Darling, Osborne and Cable I am left wondering just why Vince Cable was there?

He can say and promise just whatever he likes in the certain knowledge that his party is not going to win the election and therefore he cannot be held to account.

Perhaps he was there as the court jester?

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Letters continued from page 29

Cameras cut carnage

It is incongruous for Terry Hudson to describe safety cameras as a "cancer" (letter, 'Consultation's a sham', March 20).

Cancer is an incurable disease which kills countless sufferers, whereas safety cameras are life-saving pieces of equipment specifically designed to reduce road fatalities by preventing traffic accidents. Terry Hudson plainly has a head replete with paranoid conspiracy theories concerning the Highway Agency's considerate efforts to protect the lives of motorists.

Fortunately, most drivers share a more balanced view and are aware that safety cameras have significantly lowered the carnage on our roads.

Any technology that commendably takes the strain off our overstretched emergency services and the NHS, whilst preserving human life, should only be applauded.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury.

Double the enjoyment

The jewel in this award-winning paper is the letters pages.

The comments by concerned readers, MPs, county councillors, charity officials and intellectual academics I find compulsive reading. As for the duel between Phil Grainger and Ray Duff, currently a set all I think, this is like the serial at the Saturday morning pictures I attended as a boy.

"Will Phil Grainger get his come-uppance? or will Ray Duff get duffed up? Don't miss

next week's thrilling correspondence in KOS letters section".

A campaign Mr Duff without Phil Grainger, how boring. And you know you both could be right.

John Gamet, Keston

Building on disharmony

Concerning Steve Knight's Opinion article about parking, or lack of it.

As with most things in life, the Government wants to control everything in our lives, from birth to death. All new developments will suffer from parking problems, because it is government policy though the planning process, to deny developers and future residents sufficient parking.

This policy, they hope, will force us all, to start cycling or let our lives be governed by bus timetables.

So instead of residents living in harmony, this policy leads to the complete opposite and causes totally needless disruption and confrontation.

Knowing Peter Carroll's previous good work on fuel duty and his history in the road haulage industry, why on earth he has joined the anti-driver Liberals, I do not understand.

Terry Hudson, by email

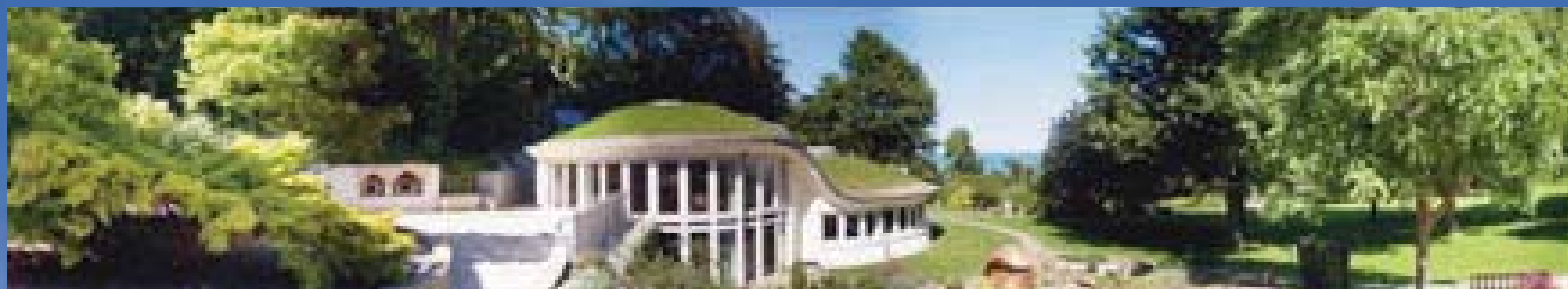
Sterilise the abusers

It is disgraceful what is happening to so many children, who are murdered, starved or abused by mothers and fathers who have no right to be parents, they should be sterilised, this would stop so many cases of abuse.

The perpetrators should be severely punished, there are no befitting punishments

Protect Kent Energy Conference 2010

Tuesday 20th April 9.30am until 2pm with optional Pines Garden Tour



'Keeping the Lights On'

A unique opportunity to join local charity Protect Kent for a lively debate on energy at the sustainable and award-winning Pines Calyx conference venue in St Margaret's Bay, Nr Dover.

Guests Speakers Sir Crispin Tickell GCMG KCVO, Peter Harper, Head of Research and Innovation, The Centre for Alternative Technology and Mike Dixon from EDF Energy.

Contributors from: Locate in Kent, The Elham Environment Group, Kent County Council plus many more!

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**KENT ADULT
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Outstanding staff up for top award

UNIVERSITY staff have been shortlisted for two prestigious awards celebrating their leadership and business skills.

The nominees, from the University of Greenwich's Medway campus, are up for the Outstanding International Strategy and Outstanding Research Management awards from the Times Higher Education magazine.

It follows work on sustainable development and agricultural projects in India and initiatives used to increase research income.

Professor Tom Barnes, one of the university's vice-chancellors, said the nominations are a huge tribute to the hard work, skills and expertise of the staff at Medway.

He added: "They also recognise the power of the university's partnerships in the region and around the world."

Adults engineer apprentice swell

THE number of adults signing up for engineering apprenticeships has soared, according to an industry report.

EngineeringUK reported a rise of 88 per cent. But where over-25s are rushing to sign up, the number of 16 to 18-year-olds getting involved has dropped by eight per cent.

The number of engineering apprenticeships on offer has decreased by nine per cent, despite a seven per cent average rise in apprenticeships across all subjects.

Chief executive of EngineeringUK, Paul Jackson, said the issue must be addressed.

"We must create apprenticeships in strategically important subjects such as engineering and manufacturing," he said.

To view the full report, go to www.engineeringuk.com.

Chart-topper helps students face the music

By **MARLIKE COX**

A RECORD producer behind the hits of big-name stars like Madonna and Kylie Minogue is giving masterclasses to music degree students.

Greg Fitzgerald, who achieved number-one tracks in Britain, Europe and Australia, as well as top-five singles in America, is passing his knowledge of the music industry on to final-year students at Canterbury Christ Church University.

"I think it's important to give something back and this way I can help young talent come through," he said.

"I will be listening to their work and giving advice about how to improve it, by using my experience from projects I've worked on and people I've worked with."

Expertise

Mr Fitzgerald, who is also a songwriter, hopes that by sharing his own expertise it will help students with their work.

"They have fantastic tutors at Canterbury Christ Church, but I truly believe I can contribute in a way that is different," he said.

"If I can talk about my experiences and things I've learned over the years with an injection of enthusiasm, I hope I can add to what are already some fantastic courses.

"I can build their confidence and make them more equipped to go out there into the workplace."

Students studying for a degree in commercial music have access to track record-

ing studios, a computer music suite and live performance facilities at the Broadstairs campus.

Mr Fitzgerald, who lives in Canterbury, said the university is well-equipped for the course.

"I think a lot of universities have taken the wrong road, in that they have the wrong equipment and computers, with students learning on desks that just aren't of use in the real world of music production," he said.

"Here they've got all the proper gear and technology."

The university is based across five different campuses in Canterbury, Broadstairs, Folkestone, Medway and Tunbridge Wells.

Andrew Gower, director of the Broadstairs campus, said it was a special pleasure to have someone with such experience working at the university.

"A professional like Greg is able to show our students how they can take their skills to the next stage and be relevant to the market in which they want to release their music," he said.

"We already offer an exciting programme of music industry-related degree courses at an exciting location, but it is only part of a wider picture.

"Industry engagement with professionals like Greg only enhances what is on offer to our students."

For information on music-related courses, go to www.canterbury.ac.uk/Broadstairs.

move 'n' smooth

An interactive and fun way for school children to learn about the benefits of healthy eating and physical activity.

Pedal your way to 5 a day

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Our workshops, developed in consultation with a panel of health and education professionals, including a nutritionist from the Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT, consist of 30 minute interactive presentations, which can be individually tailored to the needs of each class and age range. They contain information on nutrition, exercise and hydration and conclude with each child having the opportunity to make a healthy, fresh fruit smoothie on our amazing human powered smoothie-bikes.

Move 'n' Smooth can be a great addition to your event. We can almost guarantee that few of your pupils will have seen anything like it. Our professional staff will ensure that the set up and service during the events go smoothly.

The Move 'n' Smooth we use only fresh ingredients to make certain all drinks served during the event will be of highest quality. We can provide menus which can be tailor made for your event.

Our presence at your school will always receive an overwhelming thumbs up.

Since it was founded move'n'smooth has worked in conjunction with the NHS, Change4life, department of education the MEND child obesity programme and many more.

For more information please visit our website www.movensmooth.com or call for details 01843 590591

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Business AWARDS 2009

NEW BUSINESS WINNER

Area needs skill investment

A NEW government report has highlighted the need for investment in key skills areas to ensure employment growth in the South East.

The National Strategic Skills Audit, by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills, underlined five of six priority industry sectors in the region which could drive future economic growth and job creation.

These are life sciences and pharmaceuticals, construction and engineering, financial and professional services, digital economy and advanced manufacturing.

But the report also highlighted the need

for investment to ensure growth. Chris Humphries CBE, chief executive of the UK Commission for Employment and Skills, said: "The region may currently be well-placed to take advantage of the industries of the future. However, that depends on people being equipped with the right skills.

"Despite having a more skilled workforce than at any time in our history, we still lag behind many of our major economic competitors. To catch up, skills investment needs to connect more to the jobs that need doing now and that will need doing in the future."



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A busy family run home require dedicated
Care Staff - Full time 12 hour shifts
Experience not essential as training provided
Pay according to experience and qualifications
also
Domestic/Cleaners - Full time
Please call Amanda
01227 721527

Domestic Help
20 hours per week
and also a
Part-Time Cook
12 hours per week
required at Care Home in Westgate on Sea
For more information please contact Debbie or Diane
Tel: 01843 831491

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GROOMBRIDGE MOTORCYCLES
The successful candidate will have a proven sales track record. Must be able to demonstrate a full knowledge of the sales process, both pre and post transaction. Experience with motorcycles is not necessary as training will be given. This is a full time position, 5 days a week including Saturday. Must hold a full motorcycle licence. Applicants must apply in writing enclosing a CV to Nick Young Mayfield Road Garage, Cross-in-Hand, Heathfield, East Sussex,
Email nick@jwg.co.uk
or telephone **0844 811 9570**

EA Electrical
Electrical contractor requires
Fire Alarm Test Engineer
preferably with electrical background to undertake FA / EML & door entry testing in and around Folkestone. Electrical Manager/ess required to oversee planned and reactive maintenance contract. 17th edition electricians required for works in occupied properties.
For more information please email to
Matthew Hardwick at:
matthew@ea-witham.co.uk

RMN Unit Manager
Applecroft
Applecroft Care Home LTD are currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated RMN to manage their 15 bedded Dementia unit in River, Dover.
We are looking for a Unit Manager who has experience of working with elderly residents with Dementia and challenging behaviour. This is an exciting opportunity to use your nursing/managerial skills within a supportive and flexible team environment.
Salary negotiable depending on experience with the opportunity for promotion within the company.
The successful applicant must have a valid NMC PIN.
For more information please contact
Miss Kate Sheppard Home Manager on
01304 821 331or
Email kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk

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SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS
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For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com
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BOBBING AND STROOD

www.achuk.com



Can you help us to provide high quality care to adults in and around their own homes?

All Seasons is looking for carers in your area. Experience desirable but not essential as free training always provided. Own transport preferable.

You must be able to work either early mornings or evenings and some weekends.

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cpayne@ripples.ltd.uk www.ripples.ltd.uk

Psychological Therapist

£21,519 – £27,849 PRO RATA, PER ANNUM
ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170 PRO RATA, PER ANNUM
PART TIME, 25 HOURS PER WEEK • EVENINGS MAY BE REQUIRED
BASED IN FAVERSHAM, WORKING ACROSS CANTERBURY & COASTAL DISTRICT

KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services, including Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT), part of our Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) service. We offer a strong departmental framework with regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings and effective administration.

We require an experienced psychological therapist to work with adult clients in our well established service providing short term therapy within GP practices. The number of sessions and available working days will be negotiated to meet the needs of the contracted service.

You should be qualified to a minimum of diploma level. Knowledge and skills in cognitive behavioural therapy, EMDR, interpersonal therapy and couple work are highly desirable and you should be eligible for either BACP/BABCP accreditation or UKCP registration. If you are currently employed by the NHS we will arrange for you to remain in the NHS pension scheme.

For an informal discussion of the above post please contact Lesley Rogers, Clinical Manager on 01795 590212 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday).

An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 644.

Closing date: 16 April 2010. Interview date: 30 April 2010 in Faversham.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all.
Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk



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QUALITY AND SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT MANAGER

IPS International is a successful and expanding training business based in Rochester. We train in the fields of Engineering and Manufacturing, Social Care, Management and Business Services. Funded training is provided for apprentices and adults together with commercial training in all areas of the business.

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Initially the role will include:

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- Conducting internal audits.
- Co-ordinating the production of Self Assessment Reports.
- Networking with other training providers on quality issues.
- Co-ordinating the development of Safeguarding policies.
- Communicating with, and training, IPS staff and associates.

The successful applicant will work closely with the Senior Management Team to further develop the necessary quality expertise and will be capable of drafting accurate and precise documents and working collaboratively. Good IT skills will be required as will self motivation and the ability to maintain accurate and timely records.

To apply, please provide a CV plus accompanying letter explaining your suitability for the role to Michael Henderson at the address below by the closing date of 14th April 2010.

IPS is an equal opportunities employer; we welcome applicants from all sectors of the community, including minority groups, and we are committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults

IPS International Ltd
Sir Thomas Longley Road
Medway City Estate, Rochester
Kent, ME2 4DU
E: theoffice@IPS-International.com



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Drivers only
07795 600587



We are a new company who will be opening our Ashford workshop at the end of May and we are looking for two key people to grow with us.

Senior Vehicle Technician (Foreman elect)

Professional and ambitious technician.

The successful candidate will be fully skilled, have a wide and deep knowledge of current vehicles, proven diagnostic ability, and be able to deliver consistently high quality results. MOT tester status is essential.

Permanent position

Initially £22-£25k + profit share ote 30k+

Vehicle Technician

Fully skilled with good knowledge of current vehicles, you must be able to work efficiently and effectively as part of our small team.

MOT tester status would be an advantage.

Permanent position

Initially £18-£21k + profit share ote £26k+

Both successful candidates have the opportunity to advance within the company
To apply, please forward your CV via email to David Ramsey:

mail@aaashford.co.uk

Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home

In Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager)
on 01303 254019

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

Coach Body and Paint Repairs Technician

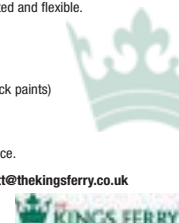
Due to pending retirement we are looking for a permanent, full time technician to join our busy Engineering Department. The ideal candidate will be reliable, self motivated and flexible.

You must be experienced in-

- Body repairs (filling/ reshaping etc.)
- Panel work
- Paint refinishing (able to apply 2 pack paints)
- Welding
- Steel repairs/ fabrication

Salary dependant on level of experience.

Please email your cv to **sarah.hackett@thekingsferry.co.uk**
or post to **The Travel Centre,**
Gillingham, Kent. ME8 6HW



LAURA ASHLEY

We currently have the following vacancies:

ASSISTANT MANAGER - SEVENOAKS

HOME/FASHION MANAGER - BLUEWATER

MANAGER - ORPINGTON

Applicants will need to have a proven track record in either a retail or sales environment.

If you are interested in applying for any of the above positions send your CV and covering letter to:

Andrea Wiltshire, Laura Ashley,
62 High Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1EY
Region7.careers@lauraashley.com

Laura Ashley is an equal opportunities employer
www.lauraashley.com

SALES PEOPLE REQUIRED

**We are looking for exceptional sales people for a number of field and telephone sales positions
Only hard working, tenacious and motivated professionals need apply**



Ideally from a sales background you will understand the importance of balancing good customer service with achieving targets. Media experience is not essential as training will be given.

KOS Media is one of the fastest growing independent multi media companies serving the Kent county. We publish 14 weekly newspapers including the flagship Kent on Sunday together with seasonal /annual magazines and 20 online news sites.

We offer a good basic salary, performance and target related bonus and 5 weeks holiday. So if you think you have what it takes to join our sales teams send your CV to **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk** quoting sales executive in the subject line.

Award Winning Company

Accounts Assistant

A flexible accounts person is required, particularly experienced in all aspects of purchase ledger including invoice processing, reconciling statements, weekly payments, with experience on computerised accounting system.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Monday to Friday 9.00am until 5.30pm.

Please send CV's to Alistair Mackay-Miller, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or by e-mail to ron@piperwindows.co.uk.

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Andy 07796 858612 or email:
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**Position - Skilled Fiat
Technician**
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would be advantageous
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are looking to recruit
Senior Healthcare Assistants
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call **Carol Rumbold** on **01622 737847**

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What about you?

Please write enclosing C.V. to: Natasha Lampard
Sofa Workshop, 4-5 The Great Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, TN1 1QQ

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Please ring
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An opportunity has arisen for a motivated
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Initially it is anticipated the position will be for
a minimum period of 6 months, but may
well lead to a full time appointment.

Candidates should have a good working
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initiative at Senior Management level.

To apply please submit your CV
and covering letter to:
Maxine Brown

Cardy Construction Limited
Maynard Road, The Wincheap Estate
Canterbury, Kent CT1 3RH
Alternatively email to
mbrown@cardygroup.co.uk

Applications to be received by 16th April 2010.

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10th May 2010

it will never be just another job

mcch is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering housing and support
services, based on the unique qualities of each individual, to people with learning disabilities,
autism or mental health needs.

In order to support our growing business we are seeking to appoint two qualified accountants as part
of an enthusiastic and motivated team in addition to a Finance Officer.

Financial Accountant
£33,000

Ref: 691/E
Maidstone

Working as part of a very busy Accounts team, you will be responsible for five staff in the payments
and cashier sections of the department. You will manage the Group's supplies, services and
cashiering functions, ensuring that financial records are continually accurate. You will ensure that
appropriate control procedures are in place for cash handling and review compliance of these.

With specific responsibility for preparing the statutory accounts for subsidiary companies you will
assist with the production of the group statutory accounts and hence have a sound knowledge of
Accounting Standards. Good verbal and written communication skills are essential.

Capital Accountant
£33,000

Ref: 692/E
Maidstone

Working within the Accounts Department, you will control all property and other capital accounting
transactions, manage day to day cash flow and ensure correct accounting of interest and other loan
payments. You will be responsible for producing monthly cash flow forecast reports and other key
management information quickly and accurately to enable effective management decision making.

You will take a proactive part in the financial appraisal of new business including costs modelling for
tenders, assessing and reporting on the impact on the budget and financial business plan. Good
verbal and written communication skills are essential, as you will need to communicate with internal
and external staff members and other agencies.

mcch also have a **Finance Officer** role based in Maidstone at £16,607, if you require further
information on the post please contact us. **Ref: 699/E**

How to apply.....

For an application form and job description email jobs@mcch.co.uk or apply on line at www.mcch.co.uk
alternatively call our recruitment line on **0845 600 1552**. Please quote ref.
We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All
appointments are subject to a Criminal
Records Disclosure.



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Ready for action? To apply, please send your CV and covering letter including current
salary to Alice Forsyth, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone,
Kent CT20 3SE or human.resources@saga.co.uk Please quote reference SVS385/KOS.

Closing date: 19 April 2010.

saga.co.uk

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Grade: **C1 - Salary: £16,830 - £22,221 per annum**
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Location: **Strood Academy, Carnation Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 2SX**
Tel: **01634 717121**
e-mail: **info@stroodacademy.org**

We are looking to appoint as soon as possible a Data Manager to create oversee and develop the Academy's use of data to help drive Academy improvement. You will have excellent communication, numerical and organisational skills. You will also have a strong working knowledge of a range of ICT software including Microsoft Office, SIMS and in particular Excel.

Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

To apply, visit www.stroodacademy.org and download an application form and job description and find out further information about us.

Closing Date: **9th April 2010**

Interviews: **w/c 19th April 2010**



THAMESVIEW SCHOOL with Business & Enterprise Status

Thong Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4LF

Headteacher: **Miss R. Hughes B.Ed Hons**

Tel: **01474 566552** Fax: **01474 537405**

email: school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk>

Inclusion Manager

Required for April 2010

37 hour per week (full time)

40 weeks per year (term time plus 2 weeks)

KCC Salary Scheme 7 (points 20-24) £20,262 to £23,053 pa

Pro rata to £17,486.10 - £19,894.73 pa

Lunch duty assistance 30 mins per day

Meetings as and when required after school

We wish to appoint an experienced and dedicated member of staff to the new permanent position of Inclusion Manager as part of the Beehive, Learning Support staff structure. You will be the key administrative, well-fare and progress development support for students with Social Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD), line managing a SEBD LSA and be directly line managed by our Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion. The successful applicant must:

- Have strong interpersonal skills and demonstrate a high level of emotional intelligence to communicate effectively in sometimes challenging situations;
- be able to liaise and communicate confidently with outside agencies, parents, staff and students;
- be confident to work independently and multi-task;
- have a cheerful disposition, positive outlook, show confidence and contribute ideas to work within a team
- Be a creative worker to proactively develop strategies to support SEBD students;
- lead and manage all aspects of monitoring progress using data effectively and implement strategies to ensure achievement of identified SEBD students;
- be a positive role model supporting students with SEBD issues;
- be highly organised and able to manage your time well, when juggling a range of tasks.

After 4 years of innovative improvement, Thamesview has now been awarded 'Good' (2) by Ofsted (in February 2009) for our 'Overall Effectiveness'.

All staff will be given a laptop in the new school, and we have a generous CPD commitment to support staff improving their skills across a range of aspects.

We are in the current wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF), so have a brand new school due to open in July 2010 with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. A purpose built inclusion area is currently being designed to replace our existing Beehive Unit.

CV's without an application form will not be accepted. You will be expected to submit a letter outlining your reasons for wanting this position with your application, together with evidence of how you have developed your own skills in readiness for this position. We are looking for the right person in this role, so if you think that you have the skills or the potential to put your stamp on this important role in the Inclusion structure then we want you to apply.

If you think this sounds exciting, please telephone: ext 208 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk for further information. Details are also available on our web site: www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: 20th April 2010

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.
Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.
Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy*

To advertise in this section



01303 817040



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**Starting salary of £21,594 per annum
37 hours per week**

Swale Borough Council is looking to recruit a highly skilled and motivated individual to provide high level personal assistant, administrative and research services to support the Chief Executive. Applicants should be versatile and be capable of working in a fast-paced environment. The successful candidate will have excellent diary management and organisational skills and be able to adapt quickly and effectively to new challenges. It is important that candidates are able to demonstrate confidence and assertiveness in their dealings with colleagues, elected members and customers. Good interpersonal skills are also essential in such a high profile work area.

The post will need to be filled from mid June to allow a hand over period. For an informal discussion please call Sue Parry on 01795 417394.

In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, Local Government final salary pension scheme and flexi time working for most posts.

For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference 200CE1.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: <http://jobs.swale.gov.uk>

Closing date: 20 April 2010

Interviews: w/c 3 May 2010



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Science Maths & Computing

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FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION**

Graduate Trainee – Leisure and Tourism

We have a vacancy for a graduate who would like to undertake school-based teacher training whilst receiving financial support. Professional help is given to successful applicants to enable them to begin teaching classes at the earliest appropriate opportunity. Applications are invited from graduates who are interested in teaching Leisure and Tourism.

The Westlands School has an excellent reputation for high quality training within a friendly and supportive environment. This is an excellent opportunity to acquire practical teaching experience under the guidance of highly skilled and dedicated professionals.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired.
Recruitment packs are available from the school. Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.
Closing date, Friday, 16 April 2010

The Westlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne,
Kent ME10 1PF
www.westlands.kent.sch.uk
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Beauty/Holistic Therapy

Ref: P0164

Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
(dependant on qualifications and experience)

18.5 Hours per week

Medway

We are looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Child Care

Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
(dependant on qualifications and experience)

Medway

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Sociology

Ref: P0322

Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
(dependant on qualifications and experience)

Medway/Maidstone

The College is looking for an excellent candidate to participate in the delivery of A' level, YUP and Access to HE courses. The ideal candidate will have experience of teaching / training in an FE environment and will have up to date and sound working knowledge of level 3 study. The successful candidate will have obtained a degree in Sociology and hold, or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Plumbing and Heating

Ref: P0691

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
(dependant on qualifications and experience)

Medway

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to deliver Plumbing, Heating and Gas programmes across a range of qualifications including the new Diplomas. The successful candidate will show a sound commitment to improving classroom delivery, classroom management and Health and Safety. Good IT Skills and the ability to work within a team are essential. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Construction

Ref: P0198

Salary: 28,463 - £32,251 per annum
(dependant on qualifications and experience)

Medway

The primary role of the post holder will be to teach on and participate in the development of construction related programmes across the Faculty. The appointee will contribute to the delivery of Entry/First/National/Higher National, Professional courses and short courses for industry as appropriate. The ability to teach in one of the main Construction /Civil Engineering disciplines would be advantageous. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Technician in Hair and Beauty

Ref: P0277

Salary: £14,588 - £17,000 per annum

Medway

We are looking for an organised candidate to assist the smooth running of the Hair and Beauty department. Responsibilities will include providing technical support to staff and students and setting-up the classrooms as required. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

Closing date: Wednesday 21st April 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Saint George's
Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend
Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 561536
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

HLTA English & Humanities

KS6 Pts 17-20 £18,471 - £20,262
(pro-rata £15,586 - £17,098)

37 hours per week / Term Time Only + 5 days (39 weeks)

We are seeking a HLTA to support learning activities for English and Humanities classes and, within an agreed system of supervision, supervise whole classes during the short-term absence of teachers. Relevant qualifications would be beneficial.

The postholder must have experience of working with children of relevant age, must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills and have the ability to work as a member of a team and on their own initiative.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to promoting equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date : 16 April 2010



Sturry, Nr Canterbury

Twin Specialisms
Business & Enterprise and
Visual & Performing Arts

NOR 412

Principal: Ian Johnson

Learning Support Assistant (English)

£14,169 - £16,064 pro rata 37 hours per week
8.30 - 4.30 Mon - Thur. 8.30 - 4.00 Fri Term Times plus inset
To commence June 2010

We are seeking to appoint a Learning Support Assistant, to support students in English.

The successful candidate will be energetic, a champion of children with an interest in English and experience of working with students with additional educational needs.

The ability to work well under pressure is essential as are excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expect all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Further details and an application form are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com. Alternatively contact Clare Smith on 0800 028 1787 or by email on clare.smithkent@hays.com to request an application pack.

Closing date: 21st April 2010

Nursery Vacancies



Dawn to Dusk Day Nurseries Ltd a well established private company and also operating an Out of School Club with a further branch in Maidstone, have the following vacancies.

Level II Nursery Nurse

We are looking for someone with a positive attitude who can work well as part of a team. Full support for training towards level III, will be given - 40hrs a week.

After School Club Assistant - P/t

This position is to work in our Dusksies Schools Out Club. Appropriate experience is required, a play work certificate preferred but not essential as training can be given. This is a part time position, Monday - Friday - Hours to be agreed.

To arrange an interview
please telephone Janice Elliott on
01322 660330

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Jobs for Kent continues on page 75...



JobsforKent.co.uk

Accountancy

Financial Accountant

Maidstone

Salary: £33,000

it will never be just another job mchc is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering housing and support services, based on the unique qualities of each individual, to people with learning disabilities, autism or mental health needs. In order to support our growing business we are seeking to appoint two qualified accountants as part of an enthusiastic and motivated team in addition to a Finance Officer. Financial Accountant Ref: 691/E £33,000 Maidstone Working as part of a very busy Accounts team, you will be responsible for five staff in the payments and cashier sections of the department. You will manage the Group's supplies, services and cashing functions, ensuring that financial records are continually accurate. You will ensure that appropriate control procedures are in place for cash handling and review compliance of these. With specific responsibility for preparing the statutory accounts for subsidiary companies you will assist with the production of the group statutory accounts and hence have a sound knowledge of Accounting Standards. Good verbal and written communication skills are essential. For an application form and job description email jobs@mcch.co.uk or apply on line at www.mcch.co.uk alternatively call our recruitment line on 0845 600 1552. Please quote ref. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.

To apply/more information: MCCH

Quoting Job Ref: 691/E
Tel: 0845 600 1552
Email jobs@mcch.co.uk

Capital Accountant

Maidstone

Salary: £33,000

it will never be just another job mchc is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering housing and support services, based on the unique qualities of each individual, to people with learning disabilities, autism or mental health needs. In order to support our growing business we are seeking to appoint two qualified accountants as part of an enthusiastic and motivated team in addition to a Finance Officer. Capital Accountant Ref: 692/E £33,000 Maidstone Working within the Accounts Department, you will control all property and other capital accounting transactions, manage day to day cash flow and ensure correct accounting of interest and other loan payments. You will be responsible for producing monthly cash flow forecast reports and other key management information quickly and accurately to enable effective management decision making. You will take a proactive part in the financial appraisal of new business including costs modelling for tenders, assessing and reporting on the impact on the budget and financial business plan. Good verbal and written communication skills are essential, as you will need to communicate with internal and external staff members and other agencies. For an application form and job description email jobs@mcch.co.uk or apply on line at www.mcch.co.uk

alternatively call our recruitment line on 0845 600 1552. Please quote ref. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.

To apply/more information: MCCH

Quoting Job Ref: 692/E
Tel: 0845 600 1552
Email jobs@mcch.co.uk

Finance Officer

Maidstone

Salary: £16,607

it will never be just another job mchc is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering housing and support services, based on the unique qualities of each individual, to people with learning disabilities, autism or mental health needs. mchc have a Finance Officer role based in Maidstone at £16,607, if you require further information on the post please contact us. Ref: 699/E Working within a very busy Accounts Department, you will be responsible for processing daily transactions relating to all bank accounts within the group and reconciling these regularly. You will be required to produce weekly reports and monthly analysis of bank transactions. With a desire to foster effective working relationships with internal and external users you will have a keen eye for detail and accuracy. For an application form and job description email jobs@mcch.co.uk or apply on line at www.mcch.co.uk alternatively call our recruitment line on 0845 600 1552. Please quote ref. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.

To apply/more information: MCCH

Quoting Job Ref: 699/E
Tel: 0845 600 1552
Email jobs@mcch.co.uk

Accounts Assistant

Ramsgate

Salary: Salary negotiable depending on experience A flexible accounts person is required, particularly experienced in all aspects of purchase ledger including invoice processing, reconciling statements, weekly payments, with experience on computerised accounting system. Monday to Friday 9.00am until 5.30pm. Please send CV's to Alistair Mackay-Miller, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or by e-mail. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

To apply/more information: Alistair Mackay-Miller
Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email ron@piperwindows.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Personal Assistant to Chief Executive

Sittingbourne

Salary: £21,594 per annum
Closing Date: 20 April 2010
Personal Assistant to Chief Executive Starting salary of £21,594 per annum 37 hours per week Swale Borough Council is looking to recruit a highly skilled and motivated individual to provide high level personal assistant, administrative and research services to support the Chief Executive. Applicants should be versatile and be capable of working in a fast-paced environment. The successful

candidate will have excellent line management and organisational skills and be able to adapt quickly and effectively to new challenges. It is important that candidates are able to demonstrate confidence and assertiveness in their dealings with colleagues, elected members and customers. Good interpersonal skills are also essential in such a high profile work area. The post will need to be filled from mid June to allow a hand over period. For an informal discussion please call Sue Parry on 01795 417394. In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, Local Government final salary pension scheme and flexi time working for most posts. For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference 200CE1. E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: http://jobs.swale.gov.uk Closing date: 20 April 2010 Interviews: w/c 3 May 2010

To apply/more information:

Swale Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 417414
Email hr@swale.gov.uk

Finding staff

24-7

JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online

01303 817040

PA/Secretary

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 16th April 2010
PA/Secretary An opportunity has arisen for a motivated PA/Secretary to join our busy Management Team at our Canterbury, Head Office. Initially it is anticipated the position will be for a minimum period of 6 months, but may well lead to a full time appointment. Candidates should have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Word/Excel and Outlook and be a proficient touch typist, together with the ability to work on your own initiative at Senior Management level. To apply please submit your CV and covering letter to: Maxine Brown, Cardy Construction Ltd, The Wincheap Estate, Maynard Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 3RH. Alternatively email to mbrown@cardygroup.co.uk Applications to be received by 16th April 2010.
To apply/more information: Cardy Construction Limited
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mbrown@cardygroup.co.uk

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Gardener/education project

Tonbridge

Salary: £18-21k pa
Closing Date: 8 April 2010
Commonwork Bore Place, Kent

Study centre and organic farm is recruiting for two new education and care farming projects involving organic vegetable growing and wellbeing Grow - Cook - Eat Gardener/education project Full time, £18-21k pa Grow2Grow Gardener/mental health project Full time or job share, £18-21k pa Thanks to Local Food and Ecominds for funding these projects. Details and application from Commonwork Bore Place Chiddingstone, Kent TN8 7AR info@commonwork.org www.commonwork.org 01732 463255 Closing date for applications: 8 April 2010 Interviews on 15 and 16 April 2010
To apply/more information: Commonwork
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 463255
Email info@commonwork.org

Gardener/mental health project

Tonbridge

Salary: £18-21k pa

Closing Date: 8 April 2010
Commonwork Bore Place, Kent Study centre and organic farm is recruiting for two new education and care farming projects involving organic vegetable growing and wellbeing Grow - Cook - Eat Gardener/education project Full time, £18-21k pa Grow2Grow Gardener/mental health project Full time or job share, £18-21k pa Thanks to Local Food and Ecominds for funding these projects. Details and application from Commonwork Bore Place Chiddingstone, Kent TN8 7AR info@commonwork.org www.commonwork.org 01732 463255 Closing date for applications: 8 April 2010 Interviews on 15 and 16 April 2010

To apply/more information: Commonwork
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 463255
Email info@commonwork.org

Art and Design

Plate Maker

Ashford

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 1st April 2010
Plate Maker: temporary cover for sickness leave Description: Working within a small Studio Team, you will be responsible for making and checking both Litho and Flexo plates and liaising with Production / planning staff. The role is methodical and quality focused requiring a good eye for detail. Specific tasks: • Outputting plates • Checking quality • Quality Assurance checks and paperwork • Monitoring Material stocks and refilling equipment with new material. In addition to this, the following skills are an advantage: • Apple Mac experience • Indigo Digital Press experience. Closing Date: 1st April 2010 Contact Details: Please send CV's to: Matt Knight - mknight@cclind.com CCL Label (Ashford) Limited Foster Road, Sevington Ashford, Kent TN24 0SH
To apply/more information: CCL Label (Ashford) Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mknight@cclind.com

Catering, Hospitality

Assistant Chef

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Assistant Chef required for busy country pub with good reputation for fine food. Apply to Eric or Helen (between 9 &

12 noon) Tel: 01303 844663
To apply/more information: Jack Daw Inn
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 844663
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Part time Cook

Thanet

Salary: TBA

Domestic Help 20 hours per week and also a Part time Cook 12 hours per week required at Care Home in Westgate on Sea For more information Please contact Debbie or Diane Tel: 01843 831491
To apply/more information: Gordon Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 831491
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

CHEF

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA

A keen enthusiastic CHEF required at busy café restaurant at Ramsgate seafront For more information please call Heather 07966 295070 or Andy 07796 858612 or email: cgoodwin2010@hotmail.co.uk
To apply/more information: Belgian Cafe
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email cgoodwin2010@hotmail.co.uk

Child Care

Level II Nursery Nurse

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Nursery Vacancies Dawn to Dusk Day Nursery Swanley Ltd a well established private company and also operating an Out of School Club with a further branch in Maidstone, have the following vacancies. Level II Nursery Nurse We are looking for someone with a positive attitude who can work well as part of a team. Full support for training towards level III, will be given - 40hrs a week. After School Club Assistant - P/T This position is to work in our Duskies Schools Out Club. Appropriate experience is required, a play work certificate preferred but not essential as training can be given. This is a part time position, Monday - Friday - Hours to be agreed. To arrange an interview please telephone Janice Elliott on 01322 660330
To apply/more information: Dawn to Dusk Day Nurseries
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 660330
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

After School Club Assistant

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Nursery Vacancies Dawn to Dusk Day Nursery Swanley Ltd a well established private company and also operating an Out of School Club with a further branch in Maidstone, have the following vacancies. Level II Nursery Nurse We are looking for someone with a positive attitude who can work well as part of a team. Full support for training towards level III, will be given - 40hrs a week. After School Club Assistant - P/T This position is to work in our Duskies Schools Out Club. Appropriate experience is required, a play work certificate preferred but not essential as training can be given. This is a part time position, Monday - Friday - Hours to be agreed. To arrange an interview please telephone Janice Elliott on 01322 660330

To apply/more information: Dawn to Dusk Day Nurseries
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 660330
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Jet Washing

Sidcup

Salary: TBA

Jet Washing person required for brickwork company based in Sidcup. Must have clean driving licence as van will be supplied. Must be reliable and hard working. Please call on 07538 064622

To apply/more information: JKS Brickwork Contractors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07538 064622
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

Cleaners

Tonbridge

Salary: TBA

Home Cleaning Company requires FULL TIME STAFF Tonbridge Based Company Mon-Fri 7.45am-4.15pm No Bank Holidays, Weekends or Evenings Drivers only 01732 359500
To apply/more information: Merry Maid
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 359500
Email merrymaidsales@btconnect.com

Weekend Domestic cleaner

Faversham

Salary: TBA

Faversham Residential Home Requires a Weekend Domestic cleaner 9am - 2pm For further details Please telephone 01795 532629 Between 10am - 4pm
To apply/more information: Carnalea Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532629
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic Help

Thanet

Salary: TBA

Domestic Help 20 hours per week and also a Part time Cook 12 hours per week required at Care Home in Westgate on Sea For more information Please contact Debbie or Diane Tel: 01843 831491
To apply/more information: Gordon Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 831491
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic Trades

EA Electrical

Folkestone

Salary: TBA

EA Electrical Electrical contractor requires Fire Alarm Test Engineer preferably with electrical background to undertake FA / EML & door entry testing in and around Folkestone. Electrical Manager/ess required to oversee planned and reactive maintenance contract. 17th edition electricians required for works in occupied properties. For more information please email to Matthew Hardwick at: matthew@ea-witham.co.uk

To apply/more information: E A Group of Companies
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email matthew@ea-witham.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Literacy/ LRC Coordinator

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Noon, Friday 26th March 2010
To apply/more information: Spire Academy
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 01227 710392
Email m.wigington@spireacademy.com

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Gravesend

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Monday 29th March 2010
Gravesend Grammar School for Girls TEACHER OF ENGLISH (Maternity Cover) Required from June 2010 Main Professional Grade We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed English teacher to cover maternity leave from 7th June to December 2010. The job provides an excellent opportunity for an ambitious teacher who is able to demonstrate a positive and creative approach in the classroom and contribute to the ongoing success of the English Faculty. The ideal candidate will be able to teach English to Key Stage 3, 4 and 5, although it may be possible to adjust the timetable to suit individual strengths and experiences. The ability to teach Media Studies A' Level would be an advantage, although not essential. The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development including a full induction in the Summer term. The School is also an Investor in People and an Investor in Careers. We have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004 and a Specialist Language College since April 2009. Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher's Personal Assistant, Mrs M Tong Ralphs. Completed forms should be returned by Monday 29th March 2010 to Mrs Wilson, Headteacher. A Specialist Science and Language College Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website: www.gsgs.org.uk email: enquiries@gsgs.org.uk

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post subject to an enhanced CRB check Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF www.westlands.kent.sch.uk Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461 Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA
To apply/more information: Westlands School (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 477475
Email swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk

Data Manager

Medway

Salary: £16,830 - £22,221 per annum

Closing Date: 9th April 2010
Data Manager Grade: C1 - **Salary:** £16,830 - £22,221 per annum Hours: 37 hours per week - 8.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday, 36 minute lunch break Location: Strood Academy Carnation Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2, 2SX Tel: 01634 717121 e-mail: info@stroodacademy.org We are looking to appoint as soon as possible a Data Manager to

create oversee and develop the Academy's use of data to help drive Academy improvement. You will have excellent communication, numerical and organisational skills. You will also have a strong working knowledge of a range of ICT software including Microsoft Office, SIMS and in particular Excel. Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. To apply, visit www.stroodacademy.org and download an application form and job description and find out further information about us. **Closing Date:** 9th April 2010 Interviews: w/c 19th April 2010
To apply/more information: Strood Academy
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 01634 717121
Email info@stroodacademy.org

Inclusion Manger

Gravesend

Salary: £17,486.10 - £19,894.73 pa
Closing Date: 20th April 2010
To apply/more information: Thames View Junior School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Graduate Trainee – Leisure and Tourism

Sittingbourne

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday, 16 April 2010
WITH EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS Graduate Trainee – Leisure and Tourism We have a vacancy for a graduate who would like to undertake school-based teacher training whilst receiving financial support. Professional help is given to successful applicants to enable them to begin teaching classes at the earliest appropriate opportunity. Applications are invited from graduates who are interested in teaching Leisure and Tourism. The Westlands School has an excellent reputation for high quality training within a friendly and supportive environment. This is an excellent opportunity to acquire practical teaching experience under the guidance of highly skilled and dedicated professionals. You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired. Recruitment packs are available from the school. Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form. Closing date, Friday, 16 April 2010 The Westlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post subject to an enhanced CRB check Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF www.westlands.kent.sch.uk Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461 Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA
To apply/more information: Westlands School (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 477475
Email swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk

HLTA English and Humanities

Gravesend

Salary: £15,586 - £17,098 pro rata
Closing Date: 16 April 2010
Saint George's Church of England School Humanities College Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel:



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01474 533082 Fax: 01474 561536 HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BOAHC Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College 11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School HLTA English & Humanities KS6 Pts 17-20 £18,471 - £20,262 (pro-rata £15,586 - £17,098) 37 hours per week / Term Time Only + 5 days (39 weeks) We are seeking a HLTA to support learning activities for English and Humanities classes and, within an agreed system of supervision, supervise whole classes during the short-term absence of teachers. Relevant qualifications would be beneficial. The postholder must have experience of working with children of relevant age, must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills and have the ability to work as a member of a team and on their own initiative. Saint George's C of E School is committed promoting equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk Closing Date: 16 April 2010

To apply/more information: St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533082
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Learning Support Assistant (English)

Canterbury
Salary: £14,169 - £16,064 pro rata
Closing Date: 21st April 2010
To apply/more information: Spire Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0800 028 1787
Email clare.smithkent@hays.com

Lecturer in Beauty/Holistic Therapy

Medway
Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 21st April 2010
Lecturer in Beauty/Holistic Therapy Ref: P0164 Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) 18.5 Hours per week Medway. We are looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. Closing date: Wednesday 21st April 2010 MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk.

Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0164
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Child Care

Medway
Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 21st April 2010
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Sociology

Medway
Salary: £22,993 - £27,881 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 21st April 2010
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0322
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Plumbing and Heating

Medway
Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0691
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Construction

Medway
Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 21st April 2010
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0198
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Technician in Hair and Beauty

Medway
Salary: £14,588 - £17,000 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 21st April 2010
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0277
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Part-time Teacher of Music

Aylesford
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 19/04/2010
To cover terms 5 and 6 Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:-
• A brand new school.
• Outstanding new facilities in all areas.
• A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways.
• A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another.
• A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students.
We are looking for a committed professional who:-
• Can motivate students through the curriculum.
• Has the desire to make the difference.
• Is

focussed on developing their career further. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna on 01622 717341 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk Please note that this school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

To apply/more information: Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER

Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER Versatile Field Service Engineer required for a small company based in Sevenoaks. Duties to include the Service and Calibration of Laboratory Equipment. This is an interesting as well as very responsible position. The ideal candidate would need to be flexible, forward thinking and organised. Electro-mechanical and refrigeration experience essential. Must be prepared to travel throughout UK To apply please Telephone: 01732 743901

To apply/more information: LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 743901
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Commercial Manager

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Commercial Manager An experienced Commercial Manager is required to head up our team of estimators working as a specialist subcontractor in the social housing refurbishment sector. With contract values up to £6.5 million pa, candidates must be able to demonstrate expertise, flair and innovation in the preparation of Tenders, PQO's and managing and assisting in Partnering Submissions for RSL's and Local Authorities as well as liaising closely with the commercial sales team and assisting with job cost feed back. Based at the company's Head Office in Ramsgate, Kent, there will be a requirement for visits to sites and meetings with clients. Offered is a salary appropriate to your experience, together with contributory pension scheme. Please apply in writing to Commercial, PO Box 462, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 1AW.

To apply/more information: Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

QUALITY AND SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT MANAGER

Medway
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 14th April 2010
IPS INTERNATIONAL Ltd
QUALITY AND SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT MANAGER IPS International is a successful and expanding training business based in Rochester. We train in the fields of Engineering and Manufacturing, Social Care, Management and Business

Services. Funded training is provided for apprentices and adults together with commercial training in all areas of the business. This new role involves the development and co-ordination of quality and systems improvement throughout the business and the introduction of performance measures to meet the requirements of Government funding, Ofsted and the marketplace. Initially the role will include:
• Reviewing and updating existing policies and procedures.
• Developing new policies and procedures.
• Conducting internal audits.
• Co-ordinating the production of Self Assessment Reports.
• Networking with other training providers on quality issues.
• Co-ordinating the development of Safeguarding policies.
• Communicating with, and training, IPS staff and associates. The successful applicant will work closely with the Senior Management Team to further develop the necessary quality expertise and will be capable of drafting accurate and precise documents and working collaboratively. Good IT skills will be required as will self motivation and the ability to maintain accurate and timely records. To apply, please provide a CV plus accompanying letter explaining your suitability for the role to Michael Henderson at the address below by the closing date of 14th April 2010. IPS is an equal opportunities employer; we welcome applicants from all sectors of the community, including minority groups, and we are committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults IPS International Ltd Sir Thomas Longley Road Medway City Estate, Rochester Kent, ME2 4DU E: theoffice@IPS-International.com

To apply/more information: IPS International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email theoffice@IPS-International.com

Claims Customer Experience Manager

Folkestone
Salary: Competitive salary + excellent benefits
Closing Date: 19 April 2010
To apply/more information: Alice Forsyth
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS385/KOS
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

Marketing Managers

Folkestone
Salary: Competitive salaries + excellent benefits
Permanent and Fixed Term Opportunities Be inspired. First of all, by a leading direct marketing brand that's driven by imaginative thinking, new ideas and innovation. A team of people who work together to create and deliver fresh marketing solutions and generate outstanding results. Secondly, our superb location. You'll be based in a tranquil open parkland setting, right next to the sea. And finally, by this exciting opportunity to raise your career profile with a hugely successful brand which incorporates Personal Finance and Insurance. In return for your hard work, there's excellent support, training and development, not to mention superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, crèche, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives. You'll have a relevant professional qualification and experience of direct marketing gained in either financial services or insurance. In addition, you'll also have

experience of managing a busy team. So if you're brimming with ideas and have a 'right first time' approach, then we'd like to hear from you. To apply, please write enclosing your CV and current remuneration details to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail human.resources@saga.co.uk Please quote reference SPF380/JFK.

To apply/more information: Sally-Jane Plenge
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SPF380/JFK
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Marketing Executive - Saga Personal Finance

Ashford
Salary: £16,874 - £21,844 + excellent benefits
To apply/more information: Sally-Jane Plenge
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SPF374/JFK
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Senior Marketing Executive

Folkestone
Salary: Competitive salary + excellent benefits
Closing Date: 16 April 2010
To apply/more information: Sally-Jane Plenge
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SPF382
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Part Time Drivers and Child Supervisors

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Part Time Drivers & Child Supervisors required for home to school transport (not owner drivers). Term time only. ALSO Weekend Taxi Drivers Help with Licence fees. Clean Licence. Tonbridge Call Dan on 01732 355866

To apply/more information: GMS Travel Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 355866
Email gmstravel@btconnect.com

Weekend Taxi Drivers

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Weekend Taxi Drivers Help with Licence fees. Clean Licence. Tonbridge Call Dan on 01732 355866

To apply/more information: GMS Travel Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 355866
Email gmstravel@btconnect.com

Coach Body and Paint Repairs Technician

Medway
Salary: TBA
Coach Body and Paint Repairs Technician Due to the pending retirement of our current technician we are looking for a permanent, full time technician who is reliable, has initiative and has a flexible approach to work to join our busy Engineering Department. This role will include- Body repairs (filling/ reshapng etc.) Panel work Paint refinishing (able to apply 2 pack paints) Welding Steel repairs/ fabrication. Previous experience in this field is essential and salary dependant on your level of experience. Please email your cv to sarah.hackett@theingsferry.co.uk or post to The Travel Centre, Gillingham, Kent. ME8 6HW.

To apply/more information: Kings Ferry
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email sarah.hackett@theingsferry.co.uk

Senior Vehicle Technician

Ashford
Salary: £22-£25k
We are a new company who will be opening our Ashford workshop at the end of May and we are looking for two key people to grow with us. Senior Vehicle Technician (Foreman elect) Professional and ambitious technician. The successful candidate will be fully skilled, have a wide and deep knowledge of current vehicles, proven diagnostic ability, and be able to deliver consistently high quality results. MOT tester status is essential. Permanent position Initially £22-£25k + profit share ote 30k+ Vehicle Technician Fully skilled with good knowledge of current vehicles, you must be able to work efficiently and effectively as part of our small team. MOT tester status would be an advantage. Permanent position Initially £18-£21k + profit share ote £26k+. Both successful candidates have the opportunity to advance within the company To apply, please forward your CV via email to David Ramsey: mail@aaashford.co.uk

To apply/more information: Advanced Automotive Ashford LLP
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mail@aaashford.co.uk

Vehicle Technician

Ashford
Salary: £18-£21k
We are a new company who will be opening our Ashford workshop at the end of May and we are looking for two key people to grow with us. Senior Vehicle Technician (Foreman elect) Professional and ambitious technician. The successful candidate will be fully skilled, have a wide and deep knowledge of current vehicles, proven diagnostic ability, and be able to deliver consistently high quality results. MOT tester status is essential. Permanent position Initially £22-£25k + profit share ote 30k+ Vehicle Technician Fully skilled with good knowledge of current vehicles, you must be able to work efficiently and effectively as part of our small team. MOT tester status would be an advantage. Permanent position Initially £18-£21k + profit share ote £26k+. Both successful candidates have the opportunity to advance within the company To apply, please forward your CV via email to David Ramsey: mail@aaashford.co.uk

To apply/more information: Advanced Automotive Ashford LLP
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mail@aaashford.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

VOLUNTEER FOR HOME-START THANET

Thanet
Salary: NA
PUT YOUR HAND UP AND VOLUNTEER FOR HOME-START THANET Use your skills and experience as a parent to support another parent who is finding life difficult. For giving a few hours of your time a week we offer FREE and on-going training plus out of pocket expenses. Make a real difference to a family's life. To find out more call 01843 866344. Our next course starts on Monday 10th May 2010

To apply/more information: Homestart - Broadstairs
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 866344
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Club Play Workers

Thanet
Salary: Zero Hours
Closing Date: 23/04/10
Club Play Workers – Thanet &

Herne Bay East Kent Mencap operates several youth and holiday clubs for disabled young people across the area. We are looking to recruit one more play leader and several play workers on a seasonal basis for out of school activity clubs. Play Club Leader - YPL0001 Salary Scale £8.87 - £9.25 per hour subject to experience and qualifications Play Club Workers - YPL0002 Salary Scale £4.07 – £8.49 per hour subject to experience and qualifications. These posts are subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau checks. Being holders of the Positive about Disabled People award, disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance. The closing date is 23rd April 2010. Applications must be via application form. For further information or to request an application form please contact: Lynda Salisbury Office Co-ordinator 01843 224482 Lynda.Salisbury@eastkentmencap.co.uk

To apply/more information: Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: YPL0001 & YPW0002
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

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JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Young Persons' Substance Misuse Worker

Gravesend
Salary: £21,519 – £27,849
Closing Date: 6 April 2010.
Young Persons' Substance Misuse Worker 'Changes' Dual Diagnosis Project £21,519 – £27,849 + 37 HOURS PER WEEK BASED IN GRAVESEND, COVERS DARTFORD AND GRAVESEND AREAS. FIXED TERM UNTIL 31 MARCH 2011 KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. KCA Young Persons' Drug and Alcohol Service provides specialist drug and alcohol interventions for young people aged 10 – 18, their parents/carers and other agencies. Already established in East Kent, this project is expanding into West Kent supporting young offenders who present with both substance

misuse and mental health concerns. The project will be delivered in collaboration with the local Youth Offending Team and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. We require an experienced practitioner to offer intensive packages of community support to young people and their families/carers. The emphasis is on multi-agency intervention and delivering creative care packages which meet identified needs. You must have significant experience of working with young people with complex needs including substance misuse issues. Relevant professional training is essential. Should you wish to discuss this role informally please contact Sarah Mills on 01795 590635. Previous applicants need not apply. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference 637. Closing date: 6 April 2010. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 637
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Psychological Therapist

Faversham
Salary: £21,519 – £27,849 PRO RATA
Closing Date: 16 April 2010
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 644
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Mental Health Employment and Vocational Team Leader

Gravesend
Salary: £22,344-£25,589
Closing Date: 6th April 2010
To apply/more information: MCHC
Quoting Job Ref: 689/E
Tel: 0845 600 1552
Email jobs@mchc.co.uk

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Sittingbourne
Salary: £15,250
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louse.burrows@achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS

Sittingbourne
Salary: £13,250
ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in BOBBING AND STROOD www.achuk.com
BOBBING SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250
STROOD SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £13,250
STROOD SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250
For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louse.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8849.

To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louse.burrows@achuk.com



Is your CV up to date?

take advantage of a free online CV review

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

Sittingbourne

Salary: £13,250

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, highquality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in BOBBING AND STROOD www.achuk.com BOBBING SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £13,250 STROOD SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8849.

To apply/more information:

ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louise.burrows@achuk.com

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Medway

Salary: £15,250

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, highquality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in BOBBING AND STROOD www.achuk.com BOBBING SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £13,250 STROOD SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8849.

To apply/more information:

ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louise.burrows@achuk.com

Care Staff

Canterbury

Salary: TBA
Littlebourne House Care Home A busy family run home require dedicated Care Staff - Full time 12 hour shifts Experience not essential as training provided Pay according to experience and qualifications also Domestic/Cleaners - Full time Please call Amanda 01227 721527

To apply/more information:

Littlebourne House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 721527
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Night Staff

Sevenoaks

Salary: TBA
Due to expansion Night Staff required for busy Residential home good rates of pay and bonus NVQ training available. Please ring Debbie Or Karen on 01732 822215

To apply/more information:

Holywell Park Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 822215
Email debbieholywell@aol.com

Supported Living Support Worker

Thanet

Salary: £16,040-£16,896 pro rata
Closing Date: 6th April 2010
To apply/more information: MCCH
Quoting Job Ref: 690/E
Tel: 0845 600 1552
Email jobs@mcch.co.uk

RMN Unit Manager

Dover

Salary: TBA
RMN Unit Manager Applecroft Care Home LTD are currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated RMN to manage their 15 bedded Dementia unit in River, Dover. We are looking for a Unit Manager who has experience of working with elderly residents with Dementia and challenging behaviour. This is an exciting opportunity to use your nursing/managerial skills within a supportive and flexible team environment. Salary negotiable depending on experience with the opportunity for promotion within the company. The successful applicant must have a valid NMC PIN. For more information please contact Miss Kate Sheppard Home Manager on 01304 821 331 or Email kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk
To apply/more information: Applecroft Care Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 821331
Email kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk

Senior Healthcare Assistants

Maidstone

Salary: TBA
CHARING HEALTHCARE are looking to recruit Senior Healthcare Assistants for Hillbeck Care Home in Maidstone. Full and part time positions available for both day and night shifts. Must have experience of working in an EMI home. Post subject to enhanced CRB disclosure. For further details and an informal discussion please call Carol Rumbold on 01622 737847
To apply/more information: Charing Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 737847
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales Reps

Kent

Salary: £700+ pw OTE
You Missed It !!! 6 weeks ago we advertised probably the BEST job ever. The lucky candidates are now making in excess of £700+ pw OTE. We now need 5 more. If you have a car and phone, call for more info - 0800 840 1289 No experience necessary as full training can be provided.
To apply/more information: Anglian Home Improvements
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0800 840 1289
Email clare.jackson@angliangroup.com

INBOUND AND OUTBOUND SALES

Folkestone

Salary: £10,856 - £13,000+
Closing Date: 9 April 2010
To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS375/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

ASSISTANT MANAGER

Sevenoaks

Salary: TBA
We currently have the following vacancies: ASSISTANT MANAGER – SEVENOAKS HOME MANAGER – BLUEWATER MANAGER – ORPINGTON Applicants will need to have a proven track record in either a retail or sales environment. If you are interested in applying for any of the above positions send your CV and covering letter to: Andrea Wiltshire, Laura Ashley, 62 High Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1EY Region7.careers@

lauraashley.com Laura Ashley is an equal opportunities employer www.lauraashley.com
To apply/more information: Laura Ashley
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Region7.careers@lauraashley.com

HOME MANAGER

Dartford

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:

Laura Ashley
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Region7.careers@lauraashley.com

MANAGER

Orpington

Salary: TBA

We currently have the following vacancies: ASSISTANT MANAGER – SEVENOAKS HOME MANAGER – BLUEWATER MANAGER – ORPINGTON Applicants will need to have a proven track record in either a retail or sales environment. If you are interested in applying for any of the above positions send your CV and covering letter to: Andrea Wiltshire, Laura Ashley, 62 High Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1EY Region7.careers@lauraashley.com
m Laura Ashley is an equal opportunities employer www.lauraashley.com
To apply/more information: Laura Ashley
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Region7.careers@lauraashley.com

BATHROOM DESIGNER

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: TBA

BATHROOM DESIGNER & TRAINEE BATHROOM DESIGNER Our showroom in Tunbridge Wells requires showroom based innovative, yet practical design/sales consultants. You will: Help customers explore their needs, stimulate their imagination and create bathrooms that meet their every expectation. You need: To be a good communicator. To have excellent drawing skills. To work under pressure and unsupervised. To attend site visits. To work flexibly. To have a current driving licence. We offer: A good salary package plus commission Extensive training and an opportunity to excel at the highest level in bathroom design. Applications in writing marked Private & Confidential to: Colin Payne Ripples 12 Union Square Edge Road Tunbridge Wells TN4 8HE cpayne@ripples.ltd.uk www.ripples.ltd.uk
To apply/more information: Ripples Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email cpayne@ripples.ltd.uk

SALES CONSULTANT

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: ote £16,000

SALES CONSULTANT ote £16,000 Tunbridge Wells With 13 UK stores, we are one of the most dynamic & creative furniture companies on the high street. We have an exciting future, which you could be part of.
- To work within the sales team to achieve the budgeted targets.
- To exceed the expectations of your customer, and keep them as your focus in all aspects of your role.
- To monitor orders effectively from time of order to delivery. If you have a strong interest in interior design and know you can achieve the above then we hope you want to join our team. We are a growing company with big ideas and great potential. What about you?
Please write enclosing C.V. to: Natasha Lampard Sofa Workshop, 4-5 The Great Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, TN1 1QQ
To apply/more information: Sofa Workshop
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

The Insolvency Act 1986
PHILLIPS CONTRACTS LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)

Company Number 05364694
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we, Ian Verrill and Bernard Hoffman both of Gerald Edelman Business Recovery, Gateway House, Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 24 March 2010. I Verrill and B Hoffman, Joint Liquidators

The Insolvency Act 1986
FRESHER BY MILES LIMITED
Company Number 06537758

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 32 Cornhill, London, EC3V 3BT, on 15 April 2010, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a statement of their claim at the offices of Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP, 1000 Lakeside, North Harbour, Western Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 3EZ, not later than 12.00 noon on 14 April 2010. A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP at the above address between 10.00am and 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Dated 24 March 2010
Douglas Wanstall, Director

APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE

I, Samson Sellers hereby give notice that we have made an application to the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling Kent ME19 4LZ for variation of the following licensable activities;
1. The hours for sale of alcohol by retail
2. The provision of regulated entertainment
In respect of the premises situated at Thritwood Holiday Park, Plaxdale Green Road, Stansted, KENT TN15 7PB known by the sign of Thritwood Holiday Park
The application can be viewed at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling Kent ME19 4LZ during normal office hours.
Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application, that is no later than 23rd April 2010.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.
Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling Kent ME19 5QP
Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicants.

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/10/00156/LB – Platt Oast Long Mill Lane Platt Sevenoaks Kent TN15 8NA – Mr Lee Ford is applying for Listed Building Application: Retrospective consent sought for removal of internal single half brick wall and insertion of oak beam with oak supports in utility room. Reason: LB CA

TM/09/03202/FL – Court Farm 100 High Street Aylesford Kent ME20 7AZ – Mr Terry Boyle is applying for conversion and alterations to store and piggery to form separate, detached dwellinghouse. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/02897/FL – Land Adjoining Court Farm 100 High Street Aylesford Kent ME20 7AZ – Mr Terry Boyle is applying for detached dwelling. Reason: CA

TM/10/00519/FL – 7 The Grange East Malling West Malling ME19 6AH – Mr Gordon Self is applying for installation of ten solar PV panels on detached garage roof. Reason: CA

TM/09/03149/FL – The London Golf Club South Ash Manor South Ash Road Ash Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7EN – London Golf Club are applying for 130 bed hotel plus spa, 20 staff bedrooms, ancillary restaurant and conference facilities, ballroom and health spa and associated parking and landscaping. Reason: HA DEPART MD

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
MD Application is a Major Development
DEPART Application does not accord with the Development Plan
HA Site is over 1ha.
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button “Online Planning” (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 25 April 2010.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

4 April 2010



Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/00920/HOUSE **Honeycomb Cottage Marle Place Road, Brenchley**
– Two storey extension (LB)
10/00928/LBC **Honeycomb Cottage Marle Place Road, Brenchley**
– Listed Building Consent: Two storey extension (LB)
10/00981/LBC **Lydd Farmhouse Sychem Lane, Capel**
– Listed Building Consent: Replacement of non-opening window with opening window (LB)
10/00886/LBC **Hazelden Farmhouse Marden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
– Listed Building Consent - Reduce width, length, height and size of two-bay garage (LB)
10/00935/HOUSE **Old Mill Cottage Goudhurst Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
– Demolition of existing concrete double garage and replace with new oak framed double garage on same footprint (LB)
10/00937/HOUSE **8 Oakdale Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
– Single storey side extension above garage and single storey rear extension (CA)
10/00848/HOUSE **Corner Farm Biddenden Road, Frittenden**
– Demolition of existing garage and construction of two storey side extension with glazed link (LB)
10/00851/LBC **Corner Farm Biddenden Road, Frittenden**
– Listed Building Consent: Demolition of existing garage and construction of two storey side extension with glazed link (LB)
10/00984/HOUSE **Finchurst Summerhill, Goudhurst**
– Single storey rear and two storey rear and side extensions and internal alterations (LB)
10/00985/LBC **Finchurst Summerhill, Goudhurst**
– Listed Building Consent: Single storey rear and two storey rear and side extensions and internal alterations (LB)
10/00698/HOUSE **Bayham L'Eglise Clayhill Road, Lamberhurst**
– Outdoor swimming pool 5m x 10m (LB)
10/00799/LBC **12 - 16 The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
– Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to form retail space across ground, first and second floor (LB)
10/00880/HOUSE **1 Cumberland Walk Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
– Variation of existing permission to create a unified rear to No1 and incorporate the existing extension to No3 Nevill Street. Add a canopy over the front door. Development of attic to additional living space (CA)
10/00917/FUL **12 - 16 The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
– Change of use of first and second floors to A1 (Retail) from existing residential use (CA)
(LB)10/00767/HOUSE **1 Winstone Scott Avenue Langton Green, Speldhurst**
– Demolition of existing single-storey extension and erection of two-storey side extension (CA)
10/00900/HOUSE **69 The Boundary Langton Green, Speldhurst**
– Demolish existing garage and construct two-storey side extension (LB)
(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services

Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS Dated: 03 April 2010



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HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

GOLD HILL, WESTWELL
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Gold Hill, Westwell for its entire length on or after 21 April 2010 for an estimated period of one day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Westwl Lane, Tumbledown Hill

This order will come into force on Wednesday 21 April 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

FOOTPATH AND CYCLE PATH, HENWOOD, ASHFORD
(RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC
REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of water mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting pedestrians and cyclists on a Footpath and Cycle Path at Henwood, Ashford, on or after 5 April 2010 for an estimated period of 21 weeks or until the works are complete.

The location is between the western end of the western spur of Henwood to the junction with National Cycle Route 18. The alternative route for pedestrians and cyclists will be via Henwood and the National Cycle Route 18 which runs parallel to Henwood.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

VALKYRIE AVENUE, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Valkyrie Avenue, Whitstable on or after 6 April 2010 for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

The works are planned to be carried out in 2 phases, as shown below.

Phase 1:	Between the junctions of Joy Lane and Shearwater Avenue
Dates:	6 April 2010 for up to 2 days Alternative route for through traffic will be via Sandpiper Road, Columbia Avenue and Joy Lane.
Phase 2:	Between the junctions of Shearwater Avenue and Grimthorpe Avenue
Dates:	8 April 2010 for up to 3 weekdays Alternative route for through traffic via Grimthorpe Avenue, Borstal Hill and Joy Lane

Note that access to Shearwater Avenue will be maintained as signposted on site. During Phase 1 this will be via Grimthorpe Avenue and during Phase 2 via Joy Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Dover from as described in the schedule to this order on or after 09 April 2010 for an estimated period of as described in the schedule to this order or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as shown below.

Road:	Southwall Road, Deal
Extent:	between Middle Deal Road and Church Lane
Dates:	on or after 09 April 2010 for one day only
Diversion:	Middle Deal Road, Orchard Avenue and Church Lane
Road:	Monegham Road, Deal
Extent:	between Sholden Ban and Ellen's Hill
Dates:	on or after 07 June 2010 for one day only
Diversion:	A258 London Road, B2056 Manor Road, Mill Hill, Cross Road, Ellen's Road, Ellen's Hill

Road: **Northbourne Road, Deal**
Extent: between Monegham Rd and Cherry Lane – in connection with works along Monegham Rd on or after 07 June 2010
Dates:
Diversion: Cherry Lane and Monegham Road

This order will come into force on Friday 9 April 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow for the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Dover from as described in the schedule to this order on or after 23 April 2010 for an estimated period of one day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as shown below.

Road: **Coxhill, Shepherdswell**
Extent: between A2 Dover Road and Westcourt Lane
Dates: on or after 23 April 2010
Diversion: Westcourt Lane, Westcourt Road and Dover Road (Canterbury traffic to proceed in to Lydden Hill turn-off to turn round.
Or - Eythorne Road, Shepherdswell Road, Shooters Hill, Chapel Hill, Coldred Road, Church Road, Coldred Hill and Dover.

Road: **Barville Road, Eythorne**
Extent: between Pike Road and Dover Road
Dates: on or after 23 April 2010
Diversion: Wigmore Lane, Shooters Hill, Chapel Hill, The Street, Kennel Hill and A256 Whitfeld By-pass.

This order will come into force on Friday 23 April 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

WOODNESBOROUGH ROAD, SANDWICH
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to enable Network Rail to carry out track maintenance, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich between 1.00 am on 24 April 2010 until 4.00 am on Sunday 25 April 2010.

The road will be closed to through traffic for a distance of 30 metres either side of the level crossing The alternative route will be west bound via Mote Sole, Cattle Market, Harnet Street, Strand Street, High Street, New Street and St Bart's Road; east bound via Woodnesborough Road, St Bart's Road, New Street Cattle Market and Mote Sole.

This Order will come into force from 24 April 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs and barriers are on site, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The Order will allow the above-mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature, at any time for the duration of the order.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

WEST CRESCENT ROAD, GRAVESEND
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT
1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on West Crescent Road, Gravesend from side of 10 Wilfred Street to rear of 10 Bernard Street.

The Order will become effective on 5th April 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Harmer Street, Milton Road, Berkley Crescent and Wilfred Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the installation of water supplies.

CRETE HALL ROAD, NORTHFLEET
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT
1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Crete Hall Road, Northfleet between The Old Sun Public House and The Red Lion Public House.

The Order will become effective on 5th April 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Rosherville Way, Themes Way, Clifton Marine Parade and The Shore.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Major Demolition Works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

TINKERPOT LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT
1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tinkerpot Lane, West Kingsdown opposite golf course.

The Order will become effective on 5th April 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 day between 09:30 – 15:30 Hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Knatts Valley Road, Knatts Lane and Tinkerpot Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT Openreach Works.

MAIN ROAD/GORSE HILL, WEST KINGSDOWN
BRANDS HATCH RACE CIRCUIT (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Main Road / Gorse Hill, West Kingsdown as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 5th April 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on various dates as noted in schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

Schedules	
Restriction:	30mph Speed Restriction
Extent:	From A20 Main Road junction A225 Dartford Road to Twenty Mile Texaco Petrol Station. Cycle Lane Closure
Restriction:	A20 Main Road Closure
Extent 1:	A20 Main Road between Brands Hatch Race Circuit to junction A225 Eynsford Road (northbound)
Extent 2:	A20 Main Road between Brands Hatch Race Circuit to Twenty Mile Texaco Petrol Station (southbound)
Restriction:	No Right Turn
Extent 1:	Into Donkey Lane southbound from A20 Main Road
Extent 2:	Out of Donkey Lane onto A20 Main Road
Extent 3:	Into Scratcherd Lane northbound from A20 Main Road
Dates:	5th April, 18th April, 2nd May, 31st May, 11th July, 1st August, 8th August, 5th September, 10th October and 31st October 2010.

The purpose of the restrictions is to facilitate events at Brands Hatch Circuit.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

REDBROOKS WAY, HYTHE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of upgrading the wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Redbrooks Way, Hythe on or after 5 April 2010 for an estimated period of 8 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junction with Old London Road and house number 14. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Old London Road, Sunny Bank and Redbrooks Way.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

WAVERLEY ROAD, MARGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Waverley Road, Margate, on or after 5 April 2010 for an estimated period of 5 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junctions of Canterbury Road and George V Avenue. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Canterbury Road and George V Avenue.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

BUTCHER'S LANE, MEREWORTH
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Butcher's Lane between Beech Road and 183 Butcher's Lane on or after Monday 19th April 2010 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Beech Road, Beauffighter Road, A228 Malling Road and The Street.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for drainage improvement works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jamie Finch on 08458 247 800.

PILGRIMS WAY, WROTHAM
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC
REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Pilgrims Way between Farthingfield Cottage and Farthingale on or after Tuesday 6th April 2010 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed. The one way order is temporarily suspended during the closure to allow for access.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Old London Road and Pilgrims Way.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for a new gas supply. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Amy Colvin on 01689 881360.

HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2010/11 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT
1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on High Street, West Malling between the entrance to the short stay car park and its junction with Swan Street.

The Order will become effective on 25th April 2010, for the dates as shown in schedule 1 below, between the hours of 6am and 2pm, or, until completion of the event. The closure on 28th November 2010 will remain in place until 8pm. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill.

The purpose of the Order is to support the Farmers Markets taking place.

Schedule 1	
Sunday 25th April 2010	Sunday 24th October 2010
Sunday 23rd May 2010	Sunday 28th November 2010
Sunday 23rd May 2010	Sunday 19th December 2010
Sunday 25th July 2010	Sunday 23rd January 2011
Sunday 22nd August 2010	Sunday 27th February 2011
Sunday 26th September 2010	Sunday 27th March 2011

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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ROAD AHEAD: Mazda's classic MX-5 roadster epitomises the brand's sporty Zoom-Zoom image, but the Japanese company is also racing ahead in greener motoring technology so that by 2015 the latest Mazda6 (inset) will be as green as a present-day Mazda2 supermini

By **STEVE LOADER**

MAZDA may have re-positioned itself as a Japanese Alfa Romeo using the sporty 'Zoom-Zoom' message, but it is also going green at a racing pace.

Current generation mainstream models – the Mazda2 supermini, Mazda3 family hatch and slick Mazda6 family/executive model – are all lighter, leaner and meaner than their predecessors and the company has just unveiled plans to make its car range 30 per cent better on fuel within five years.

A major plank is a ground-breaking licensing deal with Toyota for hybrid petrol-electric technology from the world number one carmaker's Prius, though Mazda will use its own next generation engines for the conventional half of the pairing – a Mazda hybrid should hit the market in 2013.

But Mazda claims to be on course towards greener conventional technology too, meaning that its 2015 Mazda6 equivalent should return similar fuel economy and CO2 emissions to today's Mazda2 supermini.

Using the umbrella description Skytech, this will be through better aerodynamics, retuned powertrains, driving down vehicle weight and new technologies such as i-stop (Smart Idling Stop System) and regenerative braking – where energy usually lost in braking is used to recharge the car's battery.

Mazda freely admits this focus on making the best of conventional technology can be bought for less than the hybrid and

alternative science being developed elsewhere, while the Prius powertrain deal shows a willingness to buy in 'tech' when necessary.

The brand is also aware of savings needed by its increasingly important company car/leasing drivers, particularly on road tax and benefit-in-kind tax.

Peter Allibon, fleet spokesman for Mazda UK based at Dartford, said: "The first vehicles from the Skytech programme we expect to start reaching fleets in 2012.

"While Mazda is working behind the scenes on technological alternatives to petrol and diesel engines with research and development on hydrogen vehicles continuing apace, we expect that the internal combustion engine will remain the dominant and economic choice for fleets and company car drivers into the foreseeable future."

The third strand of Mazda's 'green' revolution will be a new six-speed automatic transmission, bringing a further five per cent cut in fuel consumption

against the current five-speed version.

Meanwhile, in the here and now, Mazda has unveiled a new car buying scheme to succeed the now defunct Government-sponsored Scrappage scheme

"The Government Scrappage scheme was a great way to get new customers into the showroom and remove some of the older, less environmentally-friendly cars from the road," said Mazda UK sales and marketing director Mark Cameron.

"We benefited from the scheme taking more than our fair share of the scrappage market, but it did discriminate against anyone who did not have a 10-year-old car to scrap."

He said that Mazda had replaced it with a scheme offering up to £2,000 off a new car and didn't even require the car buyer to have a trade-in.

"Anyone who wants to buy a new Mazda can get a great deal and purchase their perfect car at a fair price," he said.



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03 52 Ford KA 1.3 Collection, A low 28,000 miles with Air Conditioning, Central Locking, Electric windows, CD/radio **£3,250**



02 02 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 convertible, Metallic deep blue with dark red leather upholstery, Electric folding roof, electric windows, alloy wheels, air con, front fogs, abs, Remote central locking and alarm. Service history **£3,995**



05/05 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TD Zetec, finished in light metallic blue with contrasting interior. Alloy wheels, air conditioning, abs, electric windows, 5 door hatchback, a very good example of this much sought after car. **£4,995**



02 52 Peugeot 206 CC, Finished in Aegean metallic blue with contrasting black leather interior. Alloy wheels, air conditioning, abs, e/w, electric folding roof and very rare SP kit fitted. Beautiful condition throughout. **£5,495**



06 56 Peugeot 206 1.4 Petrol 3dr Verve Special Edition, Sought after! KAP supplied from new, One owner, Alloys, Front Fogs, Air con, 45,000 miles **£5,995**



03 53 Peugeot 1.6 206CC Coupe Cabriolet, with black leather upholstery, Full service history, CD/Radio, Electric windows, Electric wing mirrors, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels **£5,995**



06 06 Nissan Note 1.4SE, Tremendous value for money, one owner vehicle with 15" alloys, air conditioning, CD/Radio, Electric windows front & rear, remote central locking and front foglights **£5,995**



06/06 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 exclusive 5 Door hatchback, finished in gleaming black with contrasting interior. One previous owner from new and full service history. Facelift model. Many features including a/c, e/w, ABS, factory alloys and lots more !, excellent condition **£6,495**



06 06 Nissan Note 1.6SE automatic, CD/Radio with steering wheel controls, on board computer, 15" Alloys, Air Conditioning, Front & Rear Electric Windows, Sliding Rear Seats with Flexi-board storage system **£6,495**



07 07 Micra C+C 1.6 Active Luxury Auto, One owner Coupe Cabriolet with electric roof, P/leather upholstery, alloys, front foglights, climate control, CD radio, intelligent key, full main dealer history **£6,995**



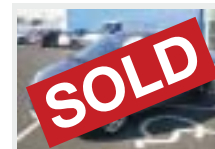
06 06 Honda Jazz 1.3SE 5 door, finished A one owner car, equipment includes Alloys, Air Conditioning, CD/Radio with steering wheel controls, Electrically adjustable & heated wing mirrors, Electric windows front & rear, Remote central locking. **£6,995**



09 59 Nissan Pixo 1.0 n-tec, Our demo, very low mileage, economical to run and £35 a year to tax, PAS, air con with pollen filter, CD/ Radio, electric front windows, remote central locking, front & side airbags, ABS with EBD... **£7,495**



05 05 Vauxhall Tigra Sport Twinport 1.4, Lovely looking, fun car, perfect all year round, 36,000 miles **£7,495**



06 56 Peugeot 207 Sport 1.6 HDi 90 3dr, Popular £35/year tax, Good condition, CD/Radio, Electric windows, Trip Computer, Leather Steering Wheel, Alloys, Front Fogs, 43,300 miles **£7,495**



08 08 Ford Fiesta Freedom 1.4, Stunning example of this popular hatchback, one former keeper, FSH, Heated windscreen, Front Fogs, Aux Input, 20,900 miles **£7,750**



04/04 Peugeot 307 2.0 CC, Metallic blue with black leather upholstery. Electric folding roof, a/c, alloy's, tinted glass, remote central locking, front fog lights power fold mirrors, auto headlamp's and wipers. Peugeot service history, low mileage for year. **£7,595**



08 08 Citroen Berlingo M-SP VTR 1.6 16v, Spacious people carrier for work and family. One owner from new, with full service history, 7353 miles **£8,495**



05 55 Hyundai Tucson 2.0 CRD CDX, Fully equipped with Full Leather upholstery and heated front seats, Alloys, Front foglights, Electric windows front & rear, Electric sunroof, Electrically adjustable wing mirrors, Climate control air conditioning, Cruise control, CD/radio. **£8,495**



06 06 Mazda 5 2.0 Sport, Room for all the family in this well equipped 6 seater with CD/Radio with steering wheel audio controls, Electric windows, Electric wing mirrors, Sliding rear doors, Climate control an 17" alloys **£9,495**



06 06 Honda Civic 1.8ES i-VTEC, A host of features, including CD/Radio with steering wheel audio controls, Dual zone climate control, Electric windows front & rear, electric wing mirrors, cruise control and Reverse park sensors. **£9,495**



09 09 Micra 1.2 '25' 5 door, Our ex-Demo. An economical to run car with CD/Radio and ipod connection, steering wheel audio controls, Electric front windows, Electric wing mirrors, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels **£9,995**



07/57 Mini One 1.6, Finished in deep metallic red with a contrasting interior. Air con, electric windows, remote central locking, alloy wheels, abs, cd player, front fog lights, service history, cheap running costs. One owner from new **£10,495**



05 05 Volkswagen Golf 2.0GTi Automatic 5 door, A fabulous drive with many features including 17" alloys, climate control, front foglights, electric windows all round, electric/heated wing mirrors, radio/CD with 10 speakers **£11,995**



07 07 Citroen C4 Picasso 2.0 VTR+ automatic, Just arrived! A spacious 7 seater with remote central locking, Electric mirrors, Front foglights, Air conditioning, Trip computer, Steering wheel audio controls, 16" alloys, Trip computer, ESP **£11,995**



04 04 Nissan 350Z, A dream drive with a powerful 276 bhp 3.5 litre engine, Full main dealer history, 6CD/radio, 18" alloys, Electric windows, Electric wing mirrors, Climate control, ESP **£11,995**



05 56 Audi A4 Estate 2.0SE Tdi, Demo plus one owner. Full main dealer history and a host of features including Front fog lights, Climate Control, CD/Radio, Electric wing mirrors, Alloys, ESP **£11,995**



09 09 Peugeot 308cc 1.6 THP 150 CC, Black with contrasting interior, Electric folding roof, A/C, alloy's, computer, E/W, abs, remote central locking, only 7800 miles, over £21500 new. **£16,995**



08/08 Honda CRV 2.2 DCI, gleaming black with contrasting interior. One owner from new and full service history. Many features including air con, electric windows, ABS, fact ory alloy wheels, detachable tow bar, front fogs plus lots more !, beautiful condition **£17,495**

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08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES.....	£8995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£8995

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08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES.....	£11995
08 58 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC 1-6 AUTO ALL BLACK LEATHER 2000 MILES.....	£15995
08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES.....	£13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS BLUE MET 5000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£13495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 SPORT CONVERT AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£3995
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENZA CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 18000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES.....	£10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES.....	£10495
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£10995
06 06 MICRA 1-6 ESSENZA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES.....	£10495
05 05 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 38000 MILES.....	£8495

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05 55 BMW 320 DIESEL ES 6 SPEED MANUAL ESTATE 5000 MILES ONLY.....	£13995
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FIAT

06 56 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 1242CC 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 16000 MILES.....	£5995
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09 09 FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS AUTO PAS SDR AVALON BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIRC/ BLUE 19000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 1000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES.....	£8495
06 56 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIRC/ BLUE 13000 MILES.....	£5995
06 56 FIESTA 1-4 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIRC/ BLUE 1000 MILES.....	£7495
05 55 FUSION 3 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£6995
04 04 FIESTA 1-4 LX AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER 24000 MILES.....	£4495

FORD FOCUS HATCHES & 4 DOORS

08 08 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C VISION BLUE 6000 MILES.....	£9995
08 08 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 4000 MILES.....	£11495
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08 57 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 7000 MILES.....	£3995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS GREEN 5000 MILES.....	£8995
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06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR TONIC BLUE 3000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS SDR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS TONIC BLU 13000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS TANGO 18000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE TONIC 16000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX HATCH AUTO PAS AIR/C STRATOS SILVER 34000 MILES.....	£5995
05 55 FORD FOCUS GHIA 2-0 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SEA GREY 27000 MILES.....	£6995
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 4 DOOR PAS AIR/C PEPPER RED 48000 MILES.....	£4995
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 5 DOOR PAS AIR/C BLACK LEATHER 58000 MILES.....	£4995

FORD FOCUS ESTATES

07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE ESTATE AUTO AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 1900 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA 5DR AUTO PAS SEA GREY AIR 17000 MILES.....	£3995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS TONIC BLUE 23000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO ESTATE PAS AIR/C TONIC BLUE 18000 MILES.....	£8495
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX HATCH AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 16000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000 MILES.....	£7495

MONDEO

06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS SDR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES.....	£9495
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05 54 ALHAMBRA STYLANCE 1-9 DIESEL AUTO 115 SILVER 26000 MILES.....	£9995
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07 58 HONDA 2-0 CR-V AUTO EXECUTIVE SAT NAV GREY 15000 MILES.....	£14995
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06 06 CORSA 1-4 ACTIVE 5DR AIR/C AUTO PAS BLUE 16000 MILES.....	£6995
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08 08 DAIHATSU SHARON SE 1-3 SDR AUTO PAS BLUE ICE 8000 MILES.....	£7995
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08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS SDR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£9995
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07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C SDR SILVER 8000 MILES.....	£10995
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06 56 2 1-4 CAPELLA AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C SDR MET BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£6495
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C SDR SEA GREY 16000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C SDR SEA GREY 21000 MILES.....	£9495

SUZUKI

07 07 SUZUKI 1-6 SX4 AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR MET BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£8495
06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES.....	£5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 16000 MILES.....	£7495
05 55 SUZUKI LIANA 1-6 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 51000 MILES.....	£4995

KIA

08 57 KIA PICANTO 1-1 ICE 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE AIR/C 9000 MILES.....	£7495
06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ORANGE 21000 MILES.....	£5995
06 06 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ORANGE 21000 MILES.....	£5495

HYUNDAI

08 58 HYUNDAI 1-4 GETZ AUTO PAS 5 DOOR SEA GREY 12000 MILES.....	£7995
08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES.....	£6995
08 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 3000 MILES.....	£6495
07 57 HYUNDAI ACCENT 3DR ATLANTIC ALLOYS AUTO PAS 6000 MILES.....	£6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£6495
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES.....	£5995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES.....	£5995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSI 5DR AUTO PAS SDR SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£5995
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08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C SDR BLUE 6000 MILES.....	£9995
08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C SDR ALLOYS SILVER 14000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 YARIS 1-3 ZINC 3DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLACK UNDER 800 MILES.....	£8995
07 56 COROLLA 1-6 T 3 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ION BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£9995
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08 08 NISSAN MICRA TEKNA 5DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 9000 MILES.....	£9495
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08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 10000 MILES.....	£8495
08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES.....	£3995
07 57 NISSAN MICRA TEKNA 5DR AUTO PAS FADED DENIM 14000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 1-4 SDR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 17000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£7495
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04 04 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£5495
04 53 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 3DR AUTO PAS ARUBA BLUE 11000 MILES.....	£5495
03 53 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 3DR AUTO PAS BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£5295
03 53 NISSAN TIPO 1-8 S 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE AIR/C 32000 MILES.....	£2495

SKODA

08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES.....	£9495
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03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES.....	£2995
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08 58 VW POLO 1-4 MATCH 5DR 6 SPD AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£9995
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07 07 VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 20000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 VW GOLF 1-6 MATCH 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£11995
06 56 VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 17000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 VW GOLF 1-6 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 11000 MILES.....	£9995
05 05 VW POLO 1-4 TWIST 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 30000 MILES.....	£6995

ASTRA HATCHES

08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS HATCH ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR SILVER 20000 MILES.....	£8495
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07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR METRO BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£6995
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR TURQUOISE 6000 MILES.....	£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR SILVER 40000 MILES.....	£7495
07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6495
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06 06 ASTRA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR 5 DOOR POMMEGRANITE 12000 MILES.....	£5995

ASTRA ESTATES

08 08 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 12000 MILES.....	£8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE PANNACOTTA 15000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES.....	£8495
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06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR METRO BLUE 11000 MILES.....	£6995
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06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£6495
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08 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS STAR SILVER 7 SEATER 15000 MILES.....	£9495
07 07 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 7 SEATER 10000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 ZAFIRA 2-2 LIFE AUTO PAS METRO BLUE 7 SEATER 12000 MILES.....	£8995
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RENAULT SCENIC'S

08 08 GRAND SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIC 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 2000 M
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



Honda Jazz gets sporty overtones

NOW that Honda builds the Jazz supermini at Swindon, it has the capability to become a big seller.

Apart from the new 'Buy British' label, dealers should now have more pricing leeway than when all stocks were imported.

And Honda has also addressed the car's slightly elderly buyer profile with a sporty new Si grade targeting younger buyers and

featuring distinctive 16-inch alloys, chrome sports front grille and rear spoiler.

It all helps give the Jazz street cred to complement its brilliant space management and flexible load carrying.

The Si (from £12,835) costs £870 more than the 1.2 SE and 1.4 ES models that sit below it, but Honda says it has nearly £2,000 worth of extra equipment.

Show highlights kit car dream

MOTORING dreams can be a budget reality through kit cars – as shown this Easter (April 4-5) weekend by one of their longest running UK showcases.

The European Kit and Car Builder Show is celebrating its 20th year and showing that Kent is home to many top names, including Blaze Motorsport, GKD Sportscars and Speedwell Replicas all from the Maidstone area, while Hawk cars (pictured right) – producer of replica versions of the legendary AC Cobra and Lancia Stratos is at Frant, near Tunbridge Wells.

Show organiser John Cooke promised:



"The two-day Detling car extravaganza will showcase the very best of the kit car

world including many established favourites and some superb newcomers.

"The event really is the perfect way to enjoy half-term with the kids, at the same time enjoying the stunning beauty of these top-class machines."

Parking is free and the show features some 35 manufacturers, 50 trade stands, 30 kit car clubs and 400 privately-owned kit cars, plus entertainments including displays by Scottish motorcycle stunt star Kevin Carmichael.

Tickets: adults £10, children 12 years and under £2, kit car drivers and their cars are free.



Clio reaches 20

WAS it really 20 years ago that those Papa and Nicole ads made Britain fall for the Clio?

It was a love affair that Renault needed; its habit of selling cars by numbers – like the Clio's once popular Renault 5 predecessor – wasn't adding up any more. But then came the lifesaving Clio and its regular place in the UK top-10 sales chart.

Two decades and three Clio generations on and that pivotal moment is being celebrated with – surprise, surprise – a Clio '20th' special edition from £14,671.

Based on the five-door version it has '20th' badges, various styling features plus bespoke 16-inch alloys and extra tinted rear windows and tailgate.

NISSAN STILL GOES FURTHER

We will give you £2,000 off our British Built Nissans when you trade in your car that is 8 years or older, instead of 10 from the Government.

THE GOVERNMENT SCRAPPAGE SCHEME NOW STOPS HERE

The Government Scrappage Scheme has been extended, but it still only covers cars older than 10 years.



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MICRA
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FROM £6,600

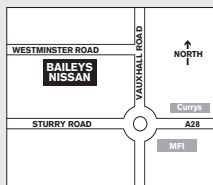
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- Electric front windows
- Battery save function

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The Government Scrappage Scheme is available until the Government funding is utilised or until 31/03/2010 (whichever is sooner). The Nissan British Built Trade in Scheme (NBBS) is available until 31/03/2010. Trade in cars under the Government Scheme must have been registered on or before 29/02/2000 and under NBBS between 01/03/2000 and 31/08/2002. The keeper of a trade in vehicle should have a UK address shown on the V5C and have been the registered keeper of the trade in vehicle for at least 12 calendar months before the order date of the new vehicle. Also a trade in vehicle must have a current MOT certificate at order date of the new vehicle and must be under 3.5 tonnes in weight. Under NBBS there is no obligation to scrap any trade in vehicle and the new vehicle purchased must be a Nissan UK built vehicle (Micra, NOTE, QASHQAI and QASHQAI+2 only). Full Terms and Conditions apply (see your local Nissan dealership for details). Schemes available at participating Nissan dealers only. Schemes not available in conjunction with Motability or any other offers. Terms and Conditions subject to change without prior notice. Excludes Channel Islands / Isle of Man. Offer available at participating dealers only. NOTE and Micra shown have optional metallic paint at £400 including VAT. Images shown for illustration purposes only. Models subject to availability. Information correct at time of going to press. Refer to dealer for exact specification. This advert supersedes any previously advertised offers. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 9YS.



Saab production and history re-started

THOSE 'Bjorn again' headlines have faded since we heard a month ago that Sweden's Saab had cheated death.

But now the serious stuff begins and it will need every scrap of Saab's famous ingenuity to stay alive as a small company in an industry dominated by giants, even with a 400 million euro loan from the EU and its partnership with similarly reborn Dutch supercar maker Spyker.

The first positive is we now know that £26,495 with a generous standard spec is the entry price for the saved company's first new model, the 9-5 – though this is a born again Vauxhall Insignia (okay, no more of that).

Secondly, production has re-started at Saab's Trollhattan plant in Sweden after being shut-

by
STEVELOADER

down for nearly two months as Vauxhall/Opel parent GM (General Motors) began winding up the company.

Symbolically, the first car down the line after the switches were thrown was a 9-5, though Saab is cagey about when it will arrive in the UK this summer.

Almost as symbolic was a 9-3 Convertible rolling off the line shortly afterwards, not only highlighting Trollhattan's flexibility and Saab's aim to produce five different cars there shortly, but also 'bringing home' the company's famous soft-top.

The convertible is Saab's ace card, with three generations being good for brand turnover and image, but only ever produced in Finland and Austria until now.

Both these cars will be joined soon by the eagerly awaited 9-5 SportWagon or estate, which should be a more affordable yet stylish rival to German models like the Audi A6 Avant and Mercedes E-Class Estate.

The third positive for Saab was shown by the big cheer from the motoring world at news of its rescue; there is no shortage of goodwill for the brand that began as a tiny carmaking offshoot of Saab aerospace in 1949, using aerodynamic styling and innovative engineering from its parent.

It promoted lighter and cheaper front-wheel drive – soon to become the motoring norm – and championed turbocharging after realising

that boosting its four-cylinder engines could challenge the six-cylinder units of German executive rivals. Nevertheless, turbocharging and its most successful model ever, the 1980s-vintage 900, could not stop GM gaining a grip on the company in 1989.

Loyal 'Saabites' then watched what they regarded as increased GM cloning within a once distinctive Saab line-up; in searching for the economies of scale that GM needed to make Saab profitable, it destroyed the distinctive USP that had created such a loyal following. The writing was on the wall a decade ago.

Economies of scale will, of course, be the biggest challenge for the new Saab-Spyker partnership – the former has tried it and failed while the latter is just 10 years old and has only ever produced small numbers of hand-built supercars.

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DrivingReview



by
STEVE LOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
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Mercedes C-Class

SOONER or later at any social gathering, when the girls start pointless speculation about Brad and Angelina's relationship, the boys drift off and start talking cars.

And one issue you can bank on coming up is: "Why are German 'green' cars 'blue'?" as in Mercedes-Benz BlueEfficiency and VW Bluemotion eco-models.

Whether it's more interesting than 'Brangelina', Grazia only knows, but there are as many twists and turns to the debate as global warming itself.

VW likes to claim that it refers to the colour within its badge and coincidentally, Germans talk about maintaining the 'blue planet' when spouting matters green.

But the popular view is that endorsing the powerful German Green Party was simply unpalatable for the country's motor moguls, so blue was chosen as the err... green banner.

Unfortunately, this rebounds awkwardly abroad; in the USA – Germany's primary car

Mercedes explains



export market – blue endorses the Democrats, who are rather more left than the Republicans and rather less likely to drive a Mercedes-Benz, though a VW 'people's wagon' would no doubt be acceptable.

Neutrality's wheels really fall off here in the UK though where BlueEfficiency is a gift to the Tories, although BlueMotion could be an innocuous Conservative political pun or Labour's description for just about any policy pedalled by Dave and Co.

What is clear from driving a Mercedes C-Class BlueEfficiency saloon for a week is that the car really deserves its name; an eco-friendly quality car that you can own and drive without appearing to give up anything you had before, or hanging a Native American 'dream catcher' from the rear view mirror.

In fact, BlueEfficiency models arrived at cheaper prices than the cars they replaced and with no apparent loss of performance in return for excellent economy and emissions stats.

In the case of the C-Class (from £23,475), the entry models are also the BlueEfficiency ones and most of the range has the same treatment – surely the way green motoring should go rather than being sold like an expensive 'extra' as with Ford's ECONetic range?

It helps in my case that I like the current C-Class; when it came out in 2007, I thought M-B finally had a car to compete on better terms with the all-conquering BMW 3-Series and Audi's increasingly attractive front-wheel

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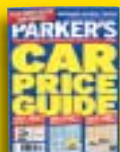
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drive A4 in the compact executive car market.

The strong suits of the latest C-Class are muscular styling and the choice of a traditional grille topped by a three-pointed star – for habitual customers and as on our SE spec test car – and a new Sport grille featuring the star badge inset like a Merc coupé model and calculated to attract younger buyers and potential converts from its rivals.

The big plus though is a rear-wheel drive chassis that runs the 3-Series close for han-

dling and driving enjoyment, but rides so much better.

This factor seems unaffected by narrower and harder compound BlueEfficiency tyres, which reduce rolling resistance and help underline the calm of the cabin, though are no doubt aided by smaller and more aerodynamic door mirrors and efficient sound-proofing for the refined 2,143cc four-cylinder diesel.

The cabin is typical Merc; robust rather than flashy, with good seats and sensible controls.

There is a decent boot and the test car was fitted with flip-down rear seats – sadly, an optional extra though not a deal breaker at just £225.

However, you will pay nearly £15,000 for the desirable and smooth-changing five-speed auto transmission.

What you won't pay extra for though is a quality executive car that will hit 60mph in under 10 seconds, average more 50mpg, and emit 144g/km of CO₂ – better than some superminis.

DrivingPortfolio

MERCEDES-BENZ C 200 CDI BLUEEFFICIENCY SE SALOON £24,850

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★★
Road tax	£125/year
Best rival	BMW 3-Series

The Verdict



DON'T LIKE:

having to pay extra for a practicality like folding rear seats



NOT SURE:

the badge can yet lure younger buyers away from BMW and Audi



REALLY LIKE:

how this upmarket motor can save your green – or blue – conscience at no extra cost

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Retail sales only. Subject to availability at participating dealers only on vehicles registered between 1 January 2010 and 31 March 2010. *0% finance available on all Mazda models (excludes Mazda RX-8 R3). Offer not available in conjunction with Government Scrappage Scheme. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 1SR. Models shown: Mazda2 1.3 Sdr TS Air Con. OTR price: £9,910 All-new Mazda3 1.6 Sdr TS. OTR price: £14,730 New Mazda CX-7 2.2D Sport Tech. OTR price: £26,340 All models shown (excluding Mazda RX-8 R3) feature optional metallic/mica paint (EXXX). On the road prices include 17.5% VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, 1st registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. Details correct at time of going to print.

ALFA ROMEO

147, TS Lusso, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering remote central locking, blue, 64000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, T SPARK LUSSO, 2005, abs brakes alloy wheels climate control cruise control electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer remote central locking rear seat entertainment, silver, 33578 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTD, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 22000 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDm (210), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 22250 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ASTON MARTIN

DB7, v12 vantage volante convertible auto, 2002, red metallic with tan and red sport leather, 18000 miles, £29850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, FSI Sport, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 39000 miles, £5800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A2, FSI Sport, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 39000 miles, £5800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A5, COUPE SPORT, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control multiple airbags airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser mp3 player power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control twin airbags xenon headlamps curtain airbags front parking sensors remote central locking auto headlights and wipers, white, 25000 miles, £27000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A6, S Line, 2006, grey metallic, 54554 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A6, tdi s line tip, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sound pack split folding rear seats sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 107000 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A6, 4.2 quattro se tip, 2005, grey metallic with light grey leather, 38000 miles, £13850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

TT ROADSTER, 2002, black metallic with light grey leather, 28000 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 118d Sport 5dr, mf07faj, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, sports seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, rear spoiler, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 0 miles, £9987, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE 5dr, lb57gxd, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 0 miles, £9997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 1.6 116 SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red, 24248 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 325 Ci SE Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, silver, 28531 miles, £15900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i SE AUTO E90, wj56uub, multi-function steering wheel, cruise control, climate control, cd player, front fog lamps, air conditioning, child locks, abs, immobiliser, alarm, central locking, power steering, stereo, electric windows, stability control, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, anti-theft system, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, traction control, trip computer, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 0 miles, £9997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

M3, M3 CONV AUTO, m53pvf, factory hard top, full leather, harman kardon, sports seats, cruise control, centre armrest, multi-function steering wheel, electric seats, heated seats, rain-sensing wipers, headlamp jetwash, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, power hood, air conditioning, climate control, radio, stereo, 19" alloys, bmw individual champagne leather, dark blue hood, eucalyptus wood trims, hard top in body colour. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, mystic blue, 59637 miles, £15997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

M5, M5 AUTO SAT NAV E60, ma56tfu, full leather, satellite navigation, heated seats, sports seats, cruise control, xenon headlamps, bluetooth, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rain-sensing wipers, rear spoiler, electric mirrors, electric windows, auto-dip rearview, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, bmw connected drive-assist, telematics, heads up display, sport exhaust system, drivologic, m sport button, paddle shifter, electric glass sunroof. at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, silverstone ii, 50685 miles, £28949, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

X3, 2.0d SE, sb56zrv, abs, immobiliser, alarm, central locking, power steering, air conditioning, climate control, cruise control, stereo, electric windows, cd player, roof rails, rear spoiler, stability control, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, 4x4, only 70566 miles manufacturers service history upgraded alloys cd player aerosport spoilers dynamic stability control downhill descent abs adjustable steering column air conditioning alarm anti dazzle rear screen anti skid control + traction bmw business stereo clear lenses climate control cruise control drivers central armrest electric windows electric wing mirrors front fog-lights full child safety window lock fully colour coded high level rear brake light immobiliser multi airbag system multi function steering wheel on board computer pas rear headrests rear spoiler remote key central locking roof rails third point seat belt tonneau cover beat this price, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, £14997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

X3, 3.0i SPORT, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 51232 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Z4, 2.0 SPORT CONV, tn07nuo, full leather, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, power hood, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in group stock. we are open 7 days a week and easily located just off the m20, m26 and m25. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, phoenix yellow, 18069 miles, £17997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

Z4 M, 3.2, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering sports seats remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 33965 miles, £21000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, Lt 5dr, fh09ckd, abs, air bag, side air bags, immob, central locking, power steering, air con, electric front windows, trip computer, cd player, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, child locks, cloth upholstery, isofix, power steering, air conditioning, electric mirrors, colour coded body, alloy wheels, body colour door handles, front door pockets, passenger seat back pocket, 3 point rear seatbelts x3, door courtesy lamps, body coloured door mirrors, body coloured bumpers, electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors, tinted glass all round, front cupholders, driver/passenger sunvisors and vanity mirrors, variable intermittent front wash/wipe, adjustable headrests, 6 speakers, height adjustable driver's seat, remote fuel cap release, black finish on b pillars, side window demist vents, lidded glovebox, headlamp levelling, space saver spare wheel, height adjustable front seatbelts, front seatbelt pretensioners, tiltable steering column, leather steering wheel, 15" alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted auto controls, black interior trim, roof spoiler, 60/40 split folding rear seat, driver sunglasses holder, black, 2000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4 SX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering split folding rear seats abs air conditioning audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking service indicator steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 2 owners, light blue, 30000 miles, £4283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 1.4 SE, 2007, abs brakes electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, blue, 13232 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX, 2006, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 34000 miles, £3500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MATIZ, 0.8, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows full service history immob power steering twin airbags, teal blue, 25325 miles, £4500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 0.8 SDR AUTOMATIC, 2007, abs brakes air con auto transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history immob multiple airbags power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, silver, 5400 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TACUMA, CDX, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immob metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 12500 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TACUMA, 2.0 CDX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys auto transmission electric windows full service history immob metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28213 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, Multispace Desire 16v, 7794079, air conditioning, electric front windows, power steering, remote central locking, remote alarm, abs, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, auto lighting, rain-sensing wipers, twin air bags, blue, 27100 miles, £6495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, aaaaaa, cd player, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, brand new, delivery mileage. grp lined, hubbard fridge standby available if required (optional extra). over 50 fridge vans in stock. BHRV.co.uk, white, 15 miles, £9995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Desire, 2003, abs brakes alarm fitted drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, sahara gold, 42613 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 3, gu57ktk, abs power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag £35 road tax, red, miles, £5995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, Rhythm, 2006, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey metallic, 9100 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i VTR, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking, red, 6011 miles, £6800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VTR, 2009, abs brakes diesel electric windows multiple airbags power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 1898 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, Design, 2007, black, 59073 miles, £4238, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C2, 16v VTS, 2005, black, 40000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C3, 5, hw55gny, insurance group 3 abs air conditioning audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking service indicator steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 2 owners, light blue, 30000 miles, £4283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, central locking diesel electric windows multi cd player power fold mirrors, black, 8450 miles, £20000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, VTR, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 18000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, XS HDI, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass remote central locking, grey, 16100 miles, £7580, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C5, Exclusive, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points quickclear windscreen roof bars remote audio controls, arctic steel, 9500 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

XSARA, Picasso Desire 2 HDI, 7462079, air conditioning, power steering, abs, electric front windows, electric mirrors, central locking, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, twin air bags, black, 18400 miles, £5495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

XSARA, Picasso Desire 16v, 7377079, air conditioning, climate control, power steering, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, front fog lamps, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, cd player, radio, trip computer, auto lighting, rain-sensing wipers, grey, 43100 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

XSARA, Picasso, 937757256, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, body coloured bumpers, lumbar support, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, steel wheels, isofix child seat anchor points, auto remote control, folding rear seats, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front armrest, front head restraints, red, 16500 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

CHARADE, Ei 3dr, wu4shoj, power steering, air bag, cloth upholstery, head restraints, immobiliser, stereo, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, abs, blue, 51000 miles, £3299, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FERRARI

575M MARANELLO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control, black, 14500 miles, £59900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

575M MARANELLO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering sports seats traction control, black, 14500 miles, £84900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

F430, SPIDER, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering sports seats traction control, red, 5500 miles, £84900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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Starts at 11.00am

Approximately 80 ~ 100 Four Wheel Drive & Diesel vehicles.

General Car Auction for cars under £1000

Starts at 12.00noon

Approximately 100 ~ 150 cars on offer, all makes and models.

General Car Auction for cars over £1000

Starts at 3.00pm

Approximately 100 ~ 150 cars on offer, all makes & models.

Commercial Vehicles

Starts at 4.00pm

Approximately 50 ~ 60 Commercial vehicles we also hope to have some caravans & campers.

Notes for all of our Auctions

Although entries are accepted up to 7.00pm on Sunday 2nd May, we would strongly advise you, where possible, to book your vehicles in as early as possible, either by phone, email, or our new instant pre-bookings service available on the internet to get maximum coverage.

Our website has over 1000 visits each day, and as well as a description of your vehicle, we can now include photographs. To book your vehicle in instantly on the internet, simply visit our website at www.hobbsparker.co.uk and click on "Car Auctions", then click on "Add Vehicle to Sale List".

As well as our usual opening times, we shall be open from 3.00pm to 7.00pm Sat 1st and Sun 2nd May to take entries. **Regretably no entries will be accepted on the sale day. All start times are approximate and the auction will run continuously.**

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Highest GEN-2 1.6 625 AT (petrol) urban 28.8 (0.6), extra urban 60.3 (0.7), combined 38.2 (0.6), CO2 176
MPG shown is for GEN-2 and only 1.6 GEN-2T, manufacturers list price £20,999 including VAT, plus vehicle tax at a rate of £200. Make shown is GEN-2 1.6 Petrol plus 14 months road fund licence and third party insurance. GEN-2 technology results with standard Government and approved by the DVLA in March 2010 and is subject to availability. Available at participating dealers only. A warranty is added to replacement in accordance with participating dealers terms and conditions apply.
Best deal with more

FIAT

500, 16v, 2008, black, 7811 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

500, 1.2 Lounge 3dr Hatch, gk59yvg, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, audio remote control, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, silver metallic, 1200 miles, £10295, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (RADE)

500, Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, bossanova white, 16400 miles, £10600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

BRAVO, Dynamic, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic black, 13000 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 256 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

DOBLO, 1.9 MultiJet Dynamic 5dr [120 Diesel Estate, rk090r, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, rear armrest, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, service indicator, space saver spare wheel, lumbar support, immobiliser, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, height adjustable drivers seat, rear headrests, fox trot azure metallic, 5800 miles, £9695, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (RADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic new wave blue, 9300 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

MULTIPLA, Dynamic, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey metallic, 3000 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.6 Dynamic 5dr Estate, gy56fmr, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, lagoon blue metallic, 30000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (RADE)

PANDA, Eleganza, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 7322 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

PANDA, Active, 09, small nice car, suitable for the city. front window electric, has cd player, parking sensors, condition good. yellow, 4000 miles, £4000, dashdamirov, 07544723701 (PRIVATE)

PANDA, 1.2 Dynamic 5dr [Skydome] Hatch, pf07svr, pas, abs, electric sunroof, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, isofix child seat anchor points, rear wiper, body coloured bumpers, roof rails, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, crossover black metallic, 10482 miles, £5495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (RADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 5, jmn468f, insurance group 11 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment 1 owner service history, vision blue, 15000 miles, £9000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

C-MAX, 5, ft07kpg, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment 1 owner service history, vision blue, 38000 miles, £7000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Titanium, 2009, hot magenta, 3500 miles, £12995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, vision, 5800 miles, £10995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia, 2007, ocean blue, 12400 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, Zetec Blue 1.4 TDCI, 2008, moon dust silver, 17000 miles, £8995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, Zetec Climate 1.6 TDCI, 2008, panther black, 20000 miles, £8495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec Climate, 2006, smethyst, 30400 miles, £6495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (RADE)

FIESTA, 3, ls07ybc, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking 2 owners service history, moon dust silver, 12000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

FIESTA, 5, ej54wov, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 1 owner service history, moon dust silver, 47000 miles, £5000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

FIESTA, 2.0, 2008, cd player drivers airbag front fog lights metallic paint, silver, 10 miles, £22500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Ghia, 2001, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, silver, £1000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 SPORT, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking, sea grey, 19500 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

FOCUS, 2.5 ST-3, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, electric orange, 60597 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, red, 65 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immob mp3 player multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer certain airbags front parking sensors remote central locking isofix child seat points multi functional tune point (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls, silver, 4147 miles, £15800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2009, abs brakes air on alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer curtain airbags front parking sensors remote central locking isofix child seat points multi functional tune point (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls, grey, 4333 miles, £15800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FUSION, Zetec, 2006, abs brakes air on alloys cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen, tango, 58341 miles, £5980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

FUSION, 1.4 TDCI STYLE, 2007, abs brakes air on alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen, silver, 40045 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

FUSION, STYLE CLIMATE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning electric windows immob metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, ocean blue, 43000 miles, £6080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

GALAXY, GHIA, 2008, abs brakes air on alloy wheels climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, star dust silver, 6280 miles, £18000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

KA, 3, ej53awy, insurance group 3 body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd 1 owner service history, moon dust silver, 46000 miles, £3283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

KA, 3, lt54xzo, insurance group 3 abs body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd 1 owner service history, moon dust silver, 46000 miles, £3283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

KA, 3, rv03faj, insurance group 2 body coloured bumpers drivers airbag folding rear seats immobiliser power steering radio/cassette 1 owner service history, ink blue, 61000 miles, £3000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (RADE)

KUGA, 2.0 Titanium TDCI 2WD, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass traction control trip computer parking sensors remote central locking multi functional tune point (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen roof bars remote audio controls, sea grey, 2792 miles, £21000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

KUGA, 2.0 Titanium TDCI 2WD, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass traction control trip computer xenon headlamps panoramic sunroof front parking sensors remote central locking multi functional tune point (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen roof bars remote audio controls, panther black, 8086 miles, £21500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

MONDEO, Titanium X (200 4 Dr 2.0 Duratorq TDCI 140ps) (2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering sunroof, silver metal, 8626 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

MONDEO, 2.5, 2008, red, 55 miles, £25000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

MONDEO, 2.5, 2008, grey, 55 miles, £25000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 110 TDi County Station Wagon, m126my, cloth upholstery, power steering, radio cassette, 4x4, road tax (plg) is £190 per year, white, 81000 miles, £9495, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (RADE)

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Hard Top 40 000 miles, gf05emx, remote alarm, power steering, tow pack, cd player, 4x4, price is £10, 995 + £1, 924.13 vat = £12, 919.13 total. road tax (lgc) is £185 per year. green, 40000 miles, £10995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (RADE)

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DEFENDER, 110 County Station Wagon, x356ose, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, power steering, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, side steps, tow pack, sunroof, alloy wheels, 4x4, 12 seater, road tax (plg) is £190 per year. epsom green metallic, 114000 miles, £12495, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (RADE) Discovery, TD5 ES Auto 7 Seats, 2003, 4x4 abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immob metallic paint multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid split folding rear seats tinted glass tow bar traction control trip computer twin airbags panoramic sunroof remote audio controls, silver metallic, 51412 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FREELANDER, 2004, air on alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, black, 69000 miles, £5600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FREELANDER, 2004, blue, 51578 miles, £7295, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

FREELANDER, 2004, abs brakes air on alloys front fog lights multi cd player traction control remote audio controls, bonatti grey, 71000 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

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PREMACY, GXE 2.0, 2003, air conditioning cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, blue, 26000 miles, £4080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

RX-8, kuro limited edition, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering sound pack sports seats tinted glass trip computer xenon headlamps remote central locking isofix child seat points, sparkling black, 16000 miles, £11500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

RX-8, kuro, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior traction control trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 25000 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

RX-8, (231), 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 33761 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

MERCEDES BENZ

C-CLASS, C200k se auto, 2003, jasper blue metallic with black leather sport seat, 33000 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (RADE)

C-CLASS, C220 cd elegance se auto, 2005, jasper blue metallic with grey cloth interior, 108000 miles, £6950, Kent, 01795426700 (RADE) MINI

COOPER, 1.6, 2005, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, electric blue, 48121 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

COOPER, 1.6 3dr, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 44335 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

COOPER, 1.6, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover remote central locking, black, 45412 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

COOPER, Cooper S, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats sports seats traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, grey, 80000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE) Cooper, 1.6, 2003, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover trip computer auto headlamps and wipers, electric blue, 46739 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

COOPER, COOPER S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering tinted glass remote central locking, white, 37377 miles, £13480, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

ONE, 1.4, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, blue, 26500 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

PORSCHE

911, CARRERA, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior power steering satellite navigation sports seats trip computer, white, 9000 miles, £69900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (RADE)

911, CARRERA, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior power steering satellite navigation sports seats trip computer, white, 9000 miles, £69900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (RADE)

BOXSTER, 2.5 ROADSTER, 1998, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 116607 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (RADE)

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- Check your lease to avoid repair bills
- Passing on the business baton
- Your word is your bond – or is it?
- Getting the best car deal after Scrappage
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Help tenants cut costs

IN these economically challenging times, virtually every company – from global corporates to small enterprises – will be monitoring their expenditure and making economies wherever possible.

And one way a landlord can help businesses minimise their outgoings is by negotiating better deals on utilities and services on their tenants' behalf. The resulting savings can then be passed on in reduced service charges.

All tenants are looking for value for money and quality of service, and if landlords don't do their best to retain their loyalty, occupiers are likely to vote with their feet and move. In these difficult times we all need to make that extra effort to retain our core business.

As owners and managers of substantial business parks in the UK and the USA, we have considerable buying power. However, all landlords can make savings for their tenants. They should meet all their contractors to review existing contract terms, frequency of service, explore bulk-buying opportunities and renegotiate contractor profit margins. They should also research the best utility contracts on the market, which can vary considerably.

We have done all this at Kings Hill and renewed our contracts early to secure the best possible prices.

This saving can have a huge impact on businesses. It could mean that redundancies don't have to be made because the savings can cover salaries. It could free up funds for researching new markets or simply mean that businesses can stay afloat.

Responsible landlords will probably already have sought better deals for their 2010 service charge budgets. However, those occupiers who

Andrew Blevins, managing director of Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust UK Ltd, explains how landlords can help occupiers beat the recession by securing reduced service charges



SAVINGS: Liberty Property Trust at Kings Hill have reviewed their service contracts for 2010

feel that the service charges they are paying are too high should contact their landlord to see if reductions can be made in the 2011 budget rounds.

Typically, service charges are payable quarterly, with a reconciliation after year-end resulting in further payment or rebate. To ensure that the year-end resolution is dealt with fairly, tenants could seek the advice of a chartered surveyor who would assess the fair-

ness of the charges, ensure that the tenants are receiving what they are paying for and ensure the quality of provision.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors website provides guidance to landlords to ensure good practice prevails. Visit www.rics.org

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Richard Metcalfe of Metcalfe Stanley Hicks chartered building surveyors, warns businesses they may find themselves seriously out of pocket if they neglect a little-understood area of their leases



FOREWARNED: Chartered building surveyor Richard Metcalfe could save you money

Don't get landed with repair bill

EVERYBODY who leases a commercial property needs to understand that unless you take appropriate steps before signing the lease, you will be responsible for repairing the property before you leave, regardless of its condition when you first occupy it.

Failing to understand the terms of their lease and its obligations can leave many businesses facing substantial and unwelcome

costs at the end of their term. In the vast majority of cases it is the responsibility of the outgoing leaseholder to repair and reinstate the property before the end of the lease. In the absence of this, the leaseholder must compensate the landlord.

Getting the work done can be disruptive to the leaseholder's business and may force them to vacate early. Negotiating a financial sum with the landlord can be difficult and may involve substantial legal costs.

Chartered building surveyors work closely with legal advisors to negotiate the pitfalls of dilapidations, ensuring that their clients, be

they landlords or leaseholders, respectively maximise their gains or minimise their losses when buildings are being vacated.

Too often businesses believe that, as they are leasing rather than purchasing, there's no need for a building survey. This is a dangerous misconception and before signing any commercial lease you must obtain proper professional advice and quantify your liabilities.

As a lease nears its end, landlords also need to take appropriate legal advice and consult a chartered building surveyor. A Schedule of Dilapidations must be prepared and served on the lessee in good time and in sufficient detail

by an experienced chartered building surveyor practitioner.

If you are the prospective leaseholder the message is – forewarned is forearmed – consult your chartered building surveyor before you sign the lease, and again in the last year of the lease, so that you may plan your effective exit.

The key is not waiting until you receive a Schedule of Dilapidations from your landlord.

• **For more information or to contact Metcalfe Stanley Hicks, go to www.msh-cbs.co.uk.**

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Onward and

For many businesses at the moment, survival is the name of the game, but when the upturn comes the issue of succession will once again return to the forefront of many owners' minds. **Paul Saunders**, managing partner of Clydesdale Bank for Kent, believes that the sooner you start planning, the better the chances of a successful exit and succession



COMPANY owners often leave it too late when it comes to succession planning, increasing the potential for internal wrangling and disputes which can cause people to take their eyes off what's important – running the business.

At the heart of the problem lies the fact that, for many owners, there's seldom enough time to accomplish day-to-day tasks, let alone plan for something that could be years away. So, when should you start succession planning? For many, it's when they have successfully navigated the start-up phase and

are approaching maturity, which is a time when the business is secure enough to start planning a succession and, ultimately, an exit. Once the decision has been made, the business owner needs to carry through the process demonstrating that this is all about the long-term wellbeing of the organisation and its workforce.

If employees have any uncertainty over the future direction of the business, then they will develop their own exit strategy and with it the risk that the best will fly the nest. At best this would hinder the exit, at worst scupper the business. So clear communication with everybody concerned is vital.

A fundamental issue is: who should succeed? And if, after auditing the firm's own talent pool and mapping that against key

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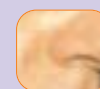
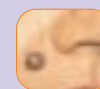
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upward as baton passes

positions, the right person, or persons, aren't to be found within the business, then the company needs to recruit them. Recruiting good people always pays dividends and is a key area of importance in succession planning.

Before succession, it's all about transition, and there's a need to actively develop longer-term successors by ensuring their careers progress and the range of work experiences that they, and the business, need for the future.

Fostering a corporate culture, which develops its workforce by sharing key skills, experiences and values, is important for any organisation. Investing time in developing family members, key employees, and management team members, and allowing them to exercise authority and control, will be vital to a successful succession.

With a transition plan and the right people in place, the actual task of selecting a successor becomes much easier. By empowering key members of the business, the selection process is simplified and the owners' exit options are broadened.

Once the decision as to who will succeed is made, the key task for the owner is communicating that plan, not just to the workforce, but beyond the business to customers, suppliers and advisers. This communication gives the successor and their colleagues a clear understanding of the path to the future and the different roles they are going to play in the journey. It also means everyone can focus on setting future goals and objectives for themselves and, importantly, the business.

An owner exiting a business also has signif-

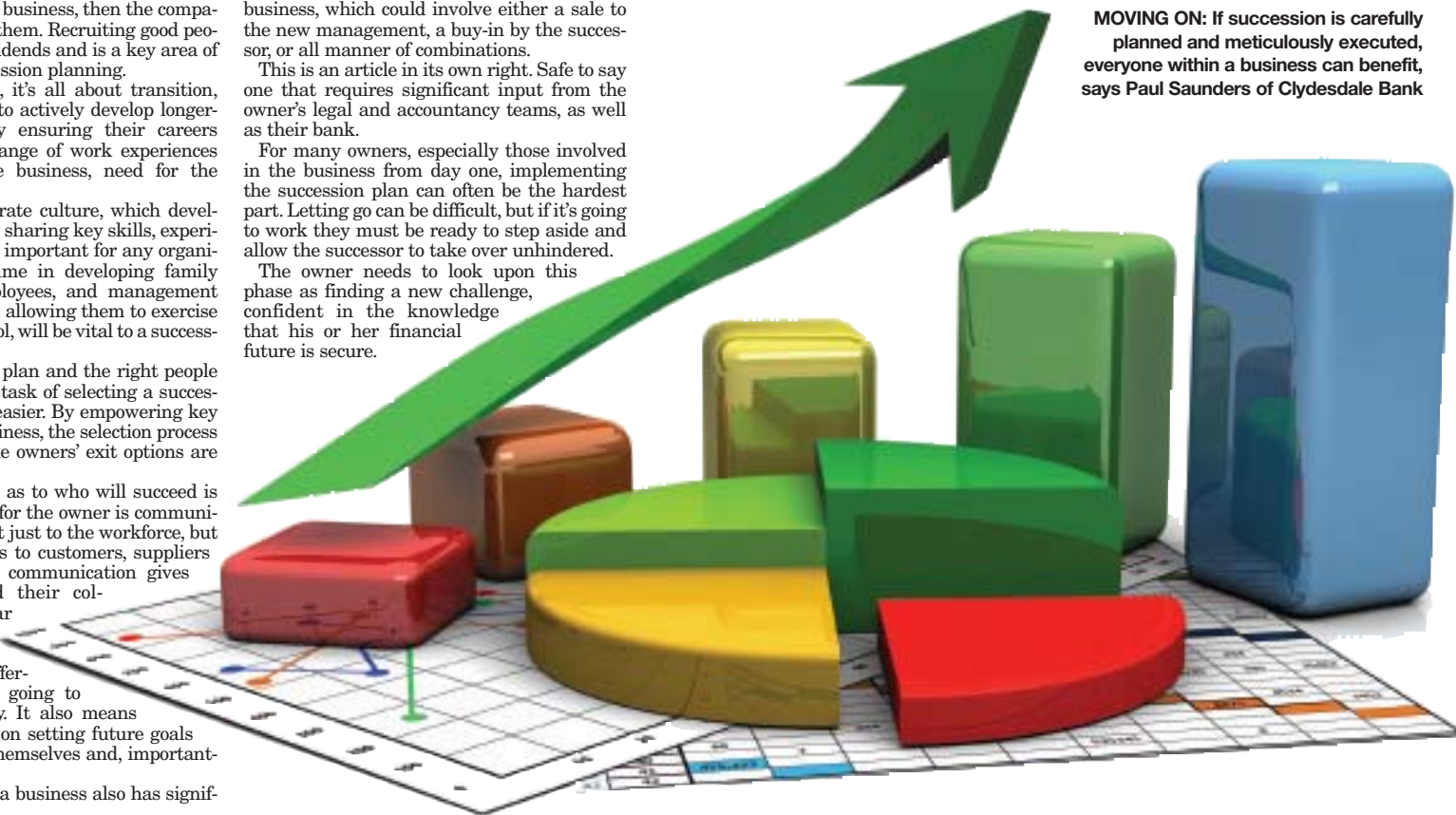
icant implications for the legal structure of a business, which could involve either a sale to the new management, a buy-in by the successor, or all manner of combinations.

This is an article in its own right. Safe to say one that requires significant input from the owner's legal and accountancy teams, as well as their bank.

For many owners, especially those involved in the business from day one, implementing the succession plan can often be the hardest part. Letting go can be difficult, but if it's going to work they must be ready to step aside and allow the successor to take over unhindered.

The owner needs to look upon this phase as finding a new challenge, confident in the knowledge that his or her financial future is secure.

MOVING ON: If succession is carefully planned and meticulously executed, everyone within a business can benefit, says Paul Saunders of Clydesdale Bank



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When trust is

Do you need a written contract to have a legally binding deal? The answer may surprise you, explains **Henar Dyson**, of Tunbridge Wells-based law firm Thomson Snell & Passmore

WHEN is a deal not a deal? Does a handshake or the undertaking of work represent a contract? Or do both sides need to have something in writing, signed and sealed, before it's official?

It's a thorny topic and one which continues to spark debate.

A recent article in The Times newspaper considered whether trust between contracting parties is an effective substitute for a contract.

The reality is that the law will imply contractual terms into any business arrangement, whether or not there is a written document.

There are also circumstances where a written contract is a legal requirement. The question, then, is whether parties can dispense with a fully-negotiated contract, where there is mutual trust.

Even lawyers will agree that contracts can take on a life of their own and become unwieldy. Word processing technology, an explosion of regulation in some areas and an increasingly litigious business environment have been largely responsible for this.

But is a negotiated contract a bad thing? There are good reasons for having one:

- It records what the parties have agreed, helping to avoid future argument;
- It apportions risk, making clear who pays if something goes wrong; and
- It will iron out the uncertainties of the general law position.

This said, there are obvious downsides to an overly-prescriptive contract. The costs of negotiation and dispute resolution can be huge. No contract can legislate for every eventuality, and this can lead to an unexpected result in court if an argument arises over circumstances that are not catered for in the contract.

International contracts present additional difficulties, where lawyers from different legal cultures try to devise a universal legal language. Also, the process of negotiation can result in a loss of trust between the parties.

Why contracts are necessary

Undoubtedly, no business arrangement can succeed without the parties trusting each other. In most cases, nor will it without a contract. There are many reasons for this:

- The basic reasons for negotiating a contract are still valid. This is not a question of lack of trust, but of practicality;
- It takes time to build up the necessary degree of trust, far more time than it takes to negotiate a balanced contract;

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simply not enough...



IT'S A DEAL: A handshake may suffice in smaller organisations, but where a high-value job is at stake, draw up a contract

- Where the power of the parties is mismatched, a negotiated contract will help the weaker party;
- High-level management does not have the time or necessarily the ability to resolve all disputes;
- Shareholders would be unlikely to support the company if they knew how potentially exposed it was.

Whilst contracts are still necessary, the level of detail in them is not always beneficial and

there are circumstances where this can and should be controlled.

For regular arrangements between the same parties, contracts can set out general principles, but need not be overly prescriptive. It is not uncommon for businesses to operate in this way.

For one-off arrangements or very high value transactions, this is not appropriate. The risks and the 'unknowns' are too high and too many. Consider also a smaller organisation, where

management knows and trusts its own staff. In those organisations, there may be scope for trust to replace a negotiated contract. In larger organisations, this is not feasible.

The production of an effective contract need not be time-consuming if clients agree terms before engaging lawyers and set a sensible timetable for concluding negotiations. The mark of a well-negotiated contract is that everyone sleeps well and the contract lives in a drawer, never to be seen again.

Essential guide to where you can save

■ Victory Pub at the Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free glass of wine or a pint with any main course

■ Stone Media Print in Ashford is offering a 2ftx8ft vinyl banner in full colour for £24.99 plus vat

■ Baileys Nissan in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off all servicing

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■ KOS Media offer, save £30 on the leader MD Electronic Typewriter only £169.99

■ Robins and Day Motors in Canterbury are offering MOTs from £29.99, or service and MOT from £119.99

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New wheel deals roll in as Scrappage is crushed

By **STEVE LOADER**

SCRAPPAGE may be dead, but keen new car deals live on in a much changed motor trade.

Half of the £2,000-a-time Scrappage grant for new car buyers part exchanging a 10-year-old (or more) banger came from car makers and dealers – some even threw in more cash to sweeten a deal.

It has made even the most conservative car buyer realise that list price didn't have to mean final price and it was worth haggling, especially with dealers just happy to survive the economic downturn.

Scrappage has also affected the used car market, because many so-called gas-guzzling bangers the Government hoped to take off the road were well cared for family motors with plenty of life in them.

Lots of real bangers are still out there, because their cash-strapped owners just can't afford to trade up at all – used or new.

Meanwhile, the cars that should never have gone to the scrapper – and dealers can tell heartbreaking stories of part-exchange Scrappage cars too young to die – were denied a new lease of life and the would-be buyers have been forced to move upwards in the used car market.



TEMPTING DEALS: Chevrolet's new Spark city car offers big car capacity within compact dimensions

This in turn has exacerbated a chronic shortage of used cars now, because fewer new cars were sold once recession loomed three or four years ago.

Prices have soared as a result and new cars start to look better value, especially when certain car makers are happy to 'buy' sales and market share with keen deals and low-rate finance just to keep their plants turning over.

Buyers may also be tempted because they

have cash earning little in a bank account, which could drive a deal on a new car instead. Before taking the plunge though, here are some do's and don'ts:

Don't be afraid to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or further discounts on extras.

Don't buy an unpopular engine or trim combination or a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago – it might be just as thirsty

as your old car and will depreciate badly.

Do pick a model that saves fuel, insurance, road tax and depreciation – it won't get any easier out there.

Don't go for a knee-jerk disposal. A new car might still be expensive, even against running your gas-guzzler for the next three years.

Don't be blinded by tax-exempt diesel eco models – check price, running costs and green credentials against the standard version.

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Price of £6,945 relates to Spark 1.0. Vehicle shown is Spark 1.2 LT. Vehicle shown features metallic paint available at extra cost of £365. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Available on UK supplied vehicles. Prices correct at time of press.

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel Consumption Figures MPG (Litres/100 km). Chevrolet Spark range emissions: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1), CO₂ Emissions 119 g/km.

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TAKE CONTROL: Driving more economically can add to the savings from eco-friendly models like the Vauxhall Insignia ecoFLEX, left, and new MultiAir version of the sporty Alfa Romeo MiTo.

Smarter driving – better saving

DOWNSIZING to a more fuel and tax-efficient car must be just part of your recession-busting motoring plan.

The next stage involves smarter driving and journey planning, and getting fitter by walking and cycling instead of using the car for short journeys – cold engines waste fuel and produce 60 per cent more emissions than warm ones. Short trips also mean more servicing and engine wear. A moped or motorcycle might be a better option. If you must drive, follow these tips from the Institute of Advanced Motorists and RAC Foundation:

- Plan your route to save strain on car and driver. Take the direct route – a sat nav can help – and go off-peak if possible. Commuters should think about car sharing, park and ride

bus schemes or other public transport.

- Have your vehicle serviced regularly.

Neglected engines waste at least 10 per cent more fuel and catalytic converters only clean emissions when properly maintained.

- Check your tyres. Under-inflated tyres wear faster, waste fuel, are dangerous and contribute to a growing environmental problem. Check tyre pressures weekly.

- Obey speed limits to save and stay legal.

Feather the throttle at cruising speed – 56mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than 70mph and a smoother driving style saves fuel.

- Accelerate briskly without racing the engine – pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gear changes at modest engine speeds can save up to 15 per cent in fuel.

- Reduce drag – remove roof racks and carriers when not in use and keep windows closed

to avoid drag and wasted fuel. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and wide wheels and tyres that add rolling resistance. Air conditioning costs fuel too, so try to use the fan and vents unassisted.

- Buy green fuel and use less. Look for low-sulphur 'city' diesel or cleaner petrol (low sulphur/aromatics). Consider converting to LPG (liquid petroleum gas) – half the price of petrol and with lower emissions.

- Think ahead – there is no point rushing and then having to brake suddenly.

- Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and burn fuel carrying more weight than necessary?

- Stuck in traffic? Turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions.

- **For more eco driving tips see Julie Maddocks' online video report at www.yourkenttv.co.uk/community.**

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Models shown have optional metallic paint available at an additional cost of £395. Prices shown are available on selected Retailer stock only, subject to stock and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. *£2000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 30.09.09 when traded in against a new car, subject to conditions. All offers available to private individuals, Fleet/Fleet Partners and small businesses (1-24 year lease only). All other save categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks. Offers available at participating retailers only. UK supplied vehicles only. Excludes £2,000 scrappage allowance.

Motoring myths shattered

By **STEVE LOADER**

DON'T be suckered by costly motoring myths, says leading company car operator Lex Autolease.

The company runs some 300,000 vehicles for UK companies and has gathered driver feedback showing many bad habits derived from popular myths. The Lex myths hitlist includes:

- **Premium fuel is good for your car now and again**

It is only suitable for high performance cars – the higher cost is repaid by better mpg. Drivers using non-performance cars should stick to ordinary unleaded and diesel.

Another myth suggests supermarket fuel is poorer quality than that from oil companies' forecourts, but they often come from the same source, so you're paying more for the brand and any additives.

- **It's best to fit your new tyres to the front axle**

Actually, they should be fitted to the rear. More grip on the rear axle improves stability on slippery roads and could prevent a spin.

Drivers are also more used to worn tyres on the front, because most modern cars are front-wheel-drive and wear front treads faster than the rears. Switching part-worn rears to the front maintains a familiar balance.

- **Allow the car to warm up before driving off**

The engine will warm up faster, use less fuel and pump out less CO2 if you drive off immediately, rather than leave it to idle for a while. In winter, this also helps the car heater warm faster, though windscreens must be fully defrosted before setting off.

- **Running the tank near to empty helps to clean it**

Fuel tanks do not self-clean. It is more likely that you will misjudge your next fill up and risk seizing the engine or other components; driving with little or no fuel can be almost as damaging to a vehicle as putting in the wrong fuel. Fill up as quick-



HIT AND MYTH: The big-selling British-built Qashqai has killed Nissan's old reputation for boring cars

ly as possible when your warning light appears.

- **Filling up slows down your car**

Partially true. A heavy fuel load impacts upon fuel efficiency and braking distances, but acceleration and top speed is barely compromised by a full tank.

- **No-claims protection insurance protects my premium if I have a crash**

Standard insurances only protect the discount you would have received at the end of a claims-free year. If you have a

claim, insurance companies are liable to increase your overall premium, despite having a no-claims protection policy – you are now a classed as an increased insurance risk. Admittedly, the company has a vested interest in the final point:

- **Leasing is more expensive than buying**

Many businesses and motorists fail to properly calculate the true cost of ownership. List price alone is a red herring and ignores true running costs: finance, depreciation, maintenance and insurance. All such costs can be better captured and budgeted through a lease deal.

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Road open to homes and jobs

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

BUSINESSES in Kent may have waited in vain for positives from the latest Budget, but the Government rolled out some major benefits for the county this week.

A £23 million investment announced for the Kent Thameside Strategic Transport Programme (KTSTP) will create an estimated 25,000 homes and 50,000 jobs according to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA).

This is then expected to unlock a £200m programme of transport investment in north Kent over the next 15 years.

At the same time, Kent's inward investment agencies were excited by small print in Chancellor Alistair Darling's Budget speech, in which he announced the relocation of Government staff from "expensive London offices" to elsewhere in the country.

Some 15,000 posts are expected to transfer out of the capital within five years and a Government source has already identified Thames Gateway as a possible beneficiary.

And ambitious Ashford – recently linked to the new high-speed rail network – says it will pitch aggressively for relocations, too.

"We have attracted many national and international companies to the town and we can put forward a compelling case for why we should be considered as an ideal home to more public sector tenants," said Judith Armit, MD at development agency Ashford's Future. "I will be making our case."

The Thameside development includes Thames Gateway as well as Eastern Quarry, Ebbsfleet Valley and the Estuary waterside at Dartford and Gravesham.

HCA regional director David Edwards said:

A NEW stage in the £2.5 billion transformation of Ashford was agreed this week.

Stanhope plc signed a deal with the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) to redevelop land at Elwick Place.

The 6.65-acre brownfield site, comprising the former cattle market and land adjoining the high-speed rail link, is seen as the first phase in transforming the area beside the award-winning shared space scheme.

Stanhope has worked on blue chip developments in London such as Tate Modern, Paternoster Square, land around St Paul's Cathedral and the Royal Opera House, and is looking at a balanced redevelopment of Elwick Place to include retail, leisure – possibly with a multiplex cinema – residential and business functions, creating 500 jobs.

Chief executive David Camp said: "This is a key site in the heart of Ashford where, in the first phase, we plan to create lively, vibrant frontages around the public space [Elwick Square] attracting new eateries and shops, strengthening and complementing Ashford's existing offer and enhancing the link to the station."

The developer now has to draw up a master plan over the next year, ready for public consultation and planning approval – and construction work could start as early as next year.

"We have put together an innovative funding programme which will enable high quality sustainable development.

"The partnership between HCA, national agencies, local authorities and the private sector demonstrates that we can secure major investment in the South East, despite the economic challenges."

The 11 infrastructure improvement schemes within the £200m package include: £123m of upgrades to the A2; with the balance made up from improved traffic systems in Dartford and Gravesend town centres; extension of the

Boom town's next stage

**VISION: Elwick Road, Ashford**

struck work could start as early as next year.

Ashford's Future's MD Judith Armit said: "Elwick Place is the next step in the transformation of Ashford, after the high-speed rail service, extension of County Square shopping centre and the opening of shared space. I'm delighted."

Lee Amor, executive director of Seeda, said: "Ashford is well placed to grow and help drive the economy of the South East onwards."

Ashford is seen as a key growth area and is now the fastest growing town between London and the Continent. It is set to double in size by 2031, creating 28,000 jobs and 31,000 homes.

Fastrack bus network in both areas; and new traffic management systems.

Kent County Council's cabinet member for regeneration, Cllr Kevin Lynes, said: "This homes and roads package is critical to Kent Thameside, which is the largest single regeneration scheme in Europe.

"This is also a testament to the true partnership working in north Kent between the county council, Dartford and Gravesham and the HCA, which is delivering the homes and roads that are needed."

Further down into the county, Ms Armit

sees the Government jobs relocation as an opportunity to accelerate Ashford's Future's aim to double the size of the town by 2031.

Using the slogan 'best placed in Britain' and with a £2.5bn investment programme, she said: "Ashford is one of the hottest destinations in the UK for companies looking to relocate, thanks to our superb road, rail and air links.

"We have attracted national and international companies to the town and we can put forward a compelling case for why we should be considered as an ideal home to more public sector tenants."

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MONEY TALK

By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent
Financial Advisers Ltd

Deadly serious consequences

BUSINESSES and partnerships are usually owned and run by more than one person.

The owners/partners are often not related, as the individuals have come together based on shared expertise and ambition to form the company.

Multi-ownership can be complex, especially at times such as when key owners or partners approach retirement and the business or partnership has to decide how to buy them out. Despite the complexity, many businesses prepare well for these occasions and clear exit strategies are put in place.

However, there are situations where businesses and partnerships could benefit from more structured planning, such as protection in the event of the death of a key shareholder or partner.

We see many companies that formed using a standard memorandum and articles of association that hasn't changed since inception and doesn't deal adequately with what should happen in the event of the death of a shareholder.

Ideally, the business should put in place an option agreement that commits the remaining shareholders or partners to buying the deceased's share of the business from the relatives who have inherited it.

This way the remaining shareholders continue to own the company and the family receive money into the estate. However, problems may arise if the remaining shareholders can't afford to buy the shares from relatives.

There's a simple and cost-efficient method of providing the funds by simply arranging life assurance policies on the lives of the shareholders or partners, for the benefit of the remaining shareholders or partners, with the business bearing the cost of the premiums, proportionately if required.

This is a simple piece of planning that could really help businesses when they need it most but is frequently ignored or misunderstood.

Woolly thinking curries favour and flavour

KITCHEN STARS:
Isobel Moore, left,
and Tina Cesbron
of Chai Stop



INNOVATIVE use of wool has enabled an award-winning Thanet-based producer of quality frozen curries to 'go national'.

Chai Stop of Minster uses the wool as an eco-friendly insulating material to keep its products frozen, putting it to the test with a trial Woolcool order overnight to Bath, nearly 200 miles away.

The dishes arrived still frozen and the delighted customer plans a weekly curry club for friends. Delivery adds just £9.99 for a batch of 10 to 20 dishes. Chai Stop's Indian and Thai curries have been available in Kent since 1999 and the company sells about 500 a week. But production is to double after a recent Taste of Kent Award and with the nationwide distribution option expected to open a new market for private and business catering and dinner parties.

The company is run by Tina Cesbron and Isobel Moore, who share an interest in holistic health from the Ayurvedic – traditional Indian medicinal – properties of herbs and spices. All meat used is reared outdoors and the vegetables, lentils and pulses are organic wherever possible.

Tina said: "The integrity of the cooking comes from years of experience, trying and testing recipes and listening to customers."

The curries are made in small batches of between 30 and 50 servings.

"Any larger and it's impossible to maintain the authentic taste," said Tina.

The founders began working together 20 years ago ladling out homemade curries from a van to students at Kent University, but Chai Stop started in 1999 from the kitchen of Isobel's house in Whitstable. The business later moved to Ebbsfleet Farm.

School leavers learn lessons of recession

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

TEENAGERS in Kent and the South East are emerging from the recession with more money sense, according to survey.

It shows they have noted the reality check over the past year and the peak of recession and become more aware of how to plan, budget, spend and save – 65 per cent claim their money management skills had improved.

But the findings also revealed young people still have unrealistic expectations of earnings once they enter the workplace.

A total of 1,458 12 to 19-year-olds from the South East contributed their thoughts to the annual nationwide NatWest MoneySense research panel.

It showed the region has the highest percentage nationally of young people to have learned about managing debt, either at home or at school – 40 per cent, against a national average of 34.

This has not only influenced their thinking, it has had a direct impact too. Teens in the South East spend nearly 15 per cent less than they did in 2008 on going out and socialising.

Jackie McQuire, a manager with NatWest MoneySense – which delivers financial educa-

tion in partnership with teachers – said the recession had exposed many young people to adult money issues: feeling the household budget tighten and becoming aware of unemployment risks and parents' money worries.

But the survey also showed there was still work to be done to ensure the good habits teenagers form now continue into adulthood as there are gaps between expectation and reality.

For instance, 39 per cent of young people in the region aiming for higher education expect to owe up to £10,000 by the end of their course. The average amount of debt incurred is about £20,000.

More than 62 per cent also expect to buy a house by the time they are 25. Only 14 per cent of homeowners in the UK are under 25.


And they expect to earn £11,500+ when they first leave education, £28,500+ by the time they are 25 and just under £51,000 by the time they are 35 – Government figures show these earnings for the following age brackets currently: 18-21 – £10,195; 22-29 – £20,962; and 30-39 – £28,933.

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Spadework is a charity based in Offham where people with learning disabilities help with the running of a farmshop and café

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Challenge of climate change

FARMING faces major challenges from climate change at a time when soaring population levels are creating extra demands *writes Pat Crawford*, but there are positives according to new Kent National Farmers' Union chairman Charles Tassell.

A former Hadlow College student now farming at Ulcombe, near Maidstone, he points to scientific evidence that warmer temperatures in northern Europe – especially during the winter – could bring increased crop yields.

"Other good predictions indicate the likelihood of being able to grow some crops in the north of England that can only currently be grown in the warmer southern counties," he said.

"The number of vineyards in the UK is on the increase and already, albeit in relatively small quantities, peaches and

olives are being grown commercially in the south west." During World War Two British farmers were the nation's alternative heroes, lauded for their commitment and hard work over unrelentingly long hours. But farming has had some dismal years recently, ahead of a revival as one of the country's most important industries.

We must also cut so-called food miles associated with imports from developing countries, yet be aware of the detriment to their economies and be prepared to help redress the balance.

We must also increase our ability to be self-sufficient and this appears to put the onus solidly on farmers.

But before that can happen, we have to address the fact that, in some farming sectors, production costs exceed market prices – and in others, viability is dependent on subsidies.



OPPORTUNITY:
Charles Tassell

**COACHING ROLE:** Rachel Geliamassi

Return's just the ticket for Rachel

BUS company Stagecoach has a new boss at Ashford and it marks a return to Kent for her.

Operations manager Rachel Geliamassi started her career as a trainee manager for Stagecoach in Warwickshire in 2007, but is originally from Bromley and the daughter of parents who both worked for Stagecoach.

Rachel gained experience with the company in west Scotland with assistant manager roles at Kilmarnock and Ardrossan.

Rachel, 28, joins 103 drivers, engineering and administration personnel at Ashford.

Phil Medlicott, Stagecoach MD in Kent, said: "This is the first opportunity for Rachel to gain a full management role as operations manager."

"With the bus industry in her blood and the experience gained over the last three years, we are confident her professionalism and enthusiasm will be appreciated by all involved with the Ashford bus network."

IoD award under Paul's Wire Belt

KENT has triumphed in one of the region's most prestigious business events – the Institute of Directors' London and South East Director of the Year awards.

Paul Winter, 61, MD of Wire Belt, Sittingbourne, won the International Director of the Year category for businesses with a turnover up to £4.99m, sponsored by HSBC. Wire Belt manufactures wire conveyor belting and conveyors, predominantly for the food processing sector.

Chris Dodson, chairman of IoD South, said: "It impressed me greatly how all the nominees and particularly the finalists have clearly shown outstanding leadership and management competence during such a difficult trading period."

Mr Winter, who lives in Faversham, said: "I've been with Wire Belt for over 30 years and during that time we have been able to grow our export percentage to 57 per cent."

"I feel proud to receive this award, especially as there are directors who will have faced similar challenges and equally deserve this acknowledgement."

The ceremony, sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers in London, was hosted by GMTV's Emma Cosby, with former Ratners jewellers' chief Gerald Ratner as keynote speaker.

**PROUD:** Wire Belt MD Paul Winter

A bitter rivalry brewing with the old enemy

**SEEING RED:** Old Dairy Brewery MD Lionel Fretz (left) and brewer Edward Wray

ANGLO French rivalry has taken many forms – sport, cheese, politics, even musket and shot, **writes KOS Media Business Editor Steve Loader.**

Now there is a new battleground for Les Roshifs v Les Frogs – English beer. And it is a real David and Goliath confrontation between French Champagne house Charles Heidsieck – part of multi-national drinks giant Remy Cointreau – and fledgling Kent brewery, Old Dairy, near Cranbrook.

Conflict has been sparked by the brewery's flagship beer, Red Top – Heidsieck says it already has the name registered and claims infringement of trademark.

But Old Dairy's MD Lionel Fretz struggles to see the connection and is drawing up battle lines.

"We approached Heidsieck out of courtesy when we found out they had the name Red Top registered for champagne, never imagining there would be a problem," he said.

"Now they are claiming the likelihood of confusion, which is just absolutely ridiculous."

"They produce superb French champagnes; we produce fine English ales. They appeal to a totally different market and are in a different league when it comes to price. The only similarity I can see is they both appeal to discerning drinkers."

Unfortunately for the forces of France, Mr Fretz is well armed with historic parallels and is not afraid to use them.

He said: "This whole situation is simply farcical but we will not be bullied and intend to fight to the bitter end."

"After all, Wellington overcame much greater forces at Waterloo so we intend to adopt the same bulldog spirit in our skirmish with this giant French poodle."

As the name suggests, his company uses a former dairy just outside the village of Rolvenden and brews two beers.

Red Top is described as a well balanced bitter of 3.8 per cent ABV (alcohol by volume) and Gold Top as a refreshing golden ale (4.5 per cent ABV).

The brewery was set up late last year by Mr Fretz and has a five-barrel plant: five barrels per brew, with a barrel yielding 36 gallons or 288 pints.

Two brews are produced per week for sale in bottle and cask.

**BAR NONE:** Red Top

Force for growth with new factory

SOUTH East Regional Minister Jonathan Shaw cut the ribbon to open a new factory in Rochester.

Manufacturer Component Force is adding to its 25-strong workforce by hiring 10 extra staff, following the move from a farm building in Birling to a unit at Rochester Airport industrial estate.

The firm also has an office in the United States. Mr Shaw, who is MP for Chatham and Aylesford, said: "Manufacturing industries are vital not only to the South East, but to the whole UK economy."

"And as we emerge from recession it is pleasing to see a company expanding, not only in this country but also overseas."

Component Force is a manufacturer, stockist and distributor of plastic, rubber and foam components, and supplies industries including aerospace, automotive, telecoms and household products.

Makeshift

It has benefited from Government support via the South East England Development Agency, UK Trade and Investment and Business Link since MD Paul Gardner launched the company in October, 2000, using a makeshift office at his home in Bearsted.

After three months his brother James joined and they moved to a farm building near Maidstone, and then to Birling.

In 2007, company turnover exceeded £1 million for the first time.

Paul Gardner said: "During the recession our growth fell to around 10 per cent increase and since our new financial year began in November our turnover on the previous year is up by almost a quarter. Our goal is to achieve a £10m turnover in the next five years and expand our overseas operations."

The company is currently planning to move US operations to a bigger warehouse and offices in St Louis, Missouri.



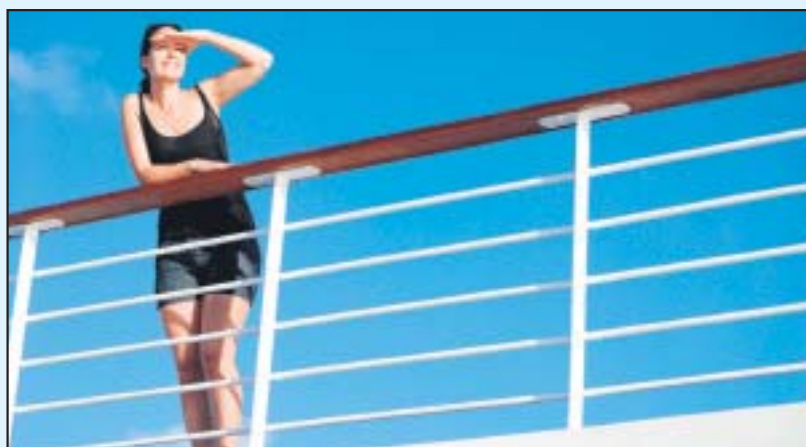
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Show suggests travel trade cruising out of recession



AN INFLUENTIAL Kent travel show at the weekend has blown away any suggestions that tourism is in the post-recession doldrums.

Cruising is enjoying a particular boom, so it was fitting that the third KOS Media Travel and Leisure Show should attract 4,000 visitors to Dover Cruise Terminal.

Show organiser Liz Hare said afterwards: "This was our most successful show by far, with lots of business secured on-site for the exhibitors. Some reported more bookings after the show had officially closed.

"And the number of cruise bookings suggest that its value-for-money/all-inclusive/see lots of places formula is proving particularly attractive in post-recession UK.

"We also had fantastic feedback from the public, saying they didn't know there was so much to do and that it was a very enjoyable and worthwhile day out.

"Many had visited us in the past and now wouldn't miss it for anything."



More than 30 prizes were on offer in competitions, including a two-week cruise with Fred. Olsen. All major cruise lines exhibited, along with most ferry operators and many French tourist attractions.

MSC Cruises spokesman Shane Fortey said: "It was an excellent function and I am sure the business return will follow."

Another company, GoCruise, took £13,000 of bookings on the day. Spokesman Roy Jones said: "The KOS Media Travel and Leisure Show has gone from strength to strength over the last three years."

Hauliers' helping hand from taxman

RENDRIVE Haulage from Kent has put itself in front of TV cameras for a four-part series called *The Business Inspector*, backed by £370,000 from the taxman.

The series, starting on Five on Wednesday, is presented by entrepreneur Hilary Devey and aims to raise awareness that small businesses like the Belvedere hauliers must keep good records.

It will have been familiar ground for the entrepreneur, who made a fortune by revolutionising palletised freight distribution as

By **STEVE LOADER**

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founder of the Pall-Ex Group. She was also a Channel 4 Secret Millionaire.

Rendrive owner Harry Clapp said: "Hilary's a hard taskmaster, but she's fair. Her sales and marketing advice has been invaluable."

Stephen Banyard, business customer unit director at HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) said: "Rendrive Haulage got real help and advice, including the need for good record keeping, from Hilary."

"Keeping good records makes good business

sense as it gives small firms the information they need to manage their business and help it grow. It also makes filling tax returns easier and helps pay the right amount of tax."

HMRC's top tips for keeping records are:

- Set up a reliable system for keeping full and accurate records of your income and expenses from the outset.
- Update your records regularly, rather than letting paperwork pile up.
- Keep records for a minimum of six years.
- Keep records of what you have bought or sold relating to your business. Include details of all cash transactions as well as invoices and receipts.

TASKMASTER:
Hilary Devey



• If you are an employer, you must keep records of wages paid and details of tax and National Insurance deducted and paid to HMRC.

• Keep bank statements and building society books. This is particularly important if you don't have a separate business account. You should be able to show clearly what you have spent personally and on the business.

Visit www.hmrc.gov.uk/factsheet/record-keeping.pdf or to watch an online video www.businesslink.gov.uk/taxhelp for more information. The new series was produced by the team behind Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares and Mary Queen of Shops.

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Reach for sky, says jet girl Jo

BRITAIN'S first female jet pilot will encourage Kent professional to reach for the sky at the Kent 2020 business dinner. Jo Salter, who flew a Tornado GR1, was one of only five female fighter pilots in the world.



TOP FLIGHT: Jo Salter

She now runs workshops, seminars and high-performance coaching sessions, where she speaks on personal development, meeting challenges and succeeding in the face of adversity.

Carole Black, events manager at Business Support Kent, said: "Jo has occupied the enviable position of being at the top of her game, a place many business professionals would aspire to get to."

"I would urge people to book now and hear first-hand the attributes and dedication needed to be the best at what you do."

For more information or to register for Kent 2020: www.kent2020.co.uk.

Partygoers join the gold rush

GOLD parties – a US import – are claimed to be all the rage as recession-hit consumers seek to unlock the cash tied up in jewellery and mementoes. Ounces2Pounds, the company which introduced the phenomenon a year ago, reckons it has bought £2.25 million of precious metals in the last year.



GOLD: Mark Nicholson

It is running 150 parties a month, with attendees bringing broken or unwanted gold and precious metals to trade with a dealer guest at the home of the party host.

Director for UK operations Mark Nicholson said: "Our parties are popular because of the personal approach. You can watch as your gold is weighed and valued."

The company pays up to 75 per cent of the daily spot price for precious metals – far better than valuations by postal gold companies, according to Ounces2Pounds.

£75



BASEPOINT Business Centres, which operates four Kent sites, was highly commended in this year's Real Business Customer Kings Awards for firms judged to have gone the extra mile.

The judges were looking for innovation, ingenuity, imagination and proof of improved customer engagement.

Real Business's Charles Orton Jones said: "Basepoint really does go the extra mile. For a service which could easily have followed a similar business model to its competitors, Basepoint has made a huge effort in placing customers at the heart of the business and creating tailored services to try to meet every need."

Extras offered by Basepoint that caught the judges' eye include hosting local networking events, flexible terms based on customer feedback, and a business portal to give small firms which occupy workspace in its centres the buying power of a major group, allowing them to achieve discounts usually reserved for large companies.

Basepoint executive director Brian Andrews said: "We listened to licensees' needs and spent a lot of time developing our systems and processes so we can deliver outstanding service."

ENTERPRISING Britain 2010 is hunting for the South East's most enterprising place, through tackling the downturn, creating jobs, boosting business and nurturing entrepreneurial talent. Last year, Chatham Historic Dockyard was named the region's most enterprising place, and chief executive Bill Ferris said it "really raised the profile of the dockyard in its 25th anniversary year, together with all the organisations working hard to regenerate this area". Enterprising Britain is free to enter for towns, cities, parishes, schools, colleges or neighbourhoods. Organisations must demonstrate that enterprise is central to the economic or social transformation of the place.

LAW firm Brachers of Maidstone has expanded with five recruits across various arms.

The corporate and commercial team has gained a new associate, Brendan Roodt, who qualified in South Africa before relocating to the UK two years ago.

Commercial property welcomes Matthew Grogan, while Kelly Ratcliffe has returned to medical and personal injury, and is also joined by Louise Baigrie.

Private client administrator Claire Godwin has also been recruited by the private client team, largely to handle trusts and personal affairs. In addition, Brachers' charitable trust has donated a cheque for £1,000 to Headway, which specialises in help and support to adults affected by brain injury across west Kent.

Di Drummond, at Headway's Tunbridge Wells and district office, said: "This money means a lot to our charity. It will go into general funding, allowing us to continue providing services."

YOUNG Chamber at South Kent College has set up its own website to communicate with students within the college.

Young Chamber is a national initiative to help young people develop their potential by understanding how business and commerce works.

Each Young Chamber has its own board, which, with the help of a chamber of commerce, develops links with local businesses, giving students the opportunity to build a relationship with, and experience of, all aspects of business enterprise.

Young Chamber at South Kent College has been active since January and, in the networking spirit of the organisation, turned to local marketing expert Neil D'Silva of Marketing Media and Works for advice on the website.

Banking on a new career behind bars



CHEERS: Richard Barrett and Jenny Chapman at The Chequers

RICHARD Barrett was studying for a career in banking when he got the hospitality bug, *writes Steve Loader.*

Some 15 years on, he has taken on his first pub tenancy at The Chequers, a picturesque local in Heaverham village, near Kemsing and Sevenoaks.

He first set foot behind a bar while studying business at the University of the West of England, Bristol.

He said: "I was only doing the bar work to earn money while studying to become an accountant or work in a bank, but I enjoyed it so much I decided the licensed trade was for me."

Richard found a job in a golf club bar and worked in various pubs as a manager before taking the plunge this year with his own tenancy, along with his partner Jenny Chapman.

"We wanted to be our own bosses and we are loving it," said Richard. "The Chequers is a 16th century picture postcard pub with lots of character. It still has a public bar and a lovely wattle and daub barn restaurant, and even a ghost. It's not too big, just the right size for our first venture."

The couple, both 32, have introduced a new menu of wholesome pub food, featuring old favourites such as sausage and mash and meat pies, all freshly made on

the premises. Richard is the chef and aims to serve "unpretentious" food in the cosy restaurant, using quality ingredients sourced locally and in season, whenever he can. One favourite is venison pie using meat from nearby Chart Farm.

There is also a function room able to accommodate 50, which is proving popular for family parties.

"We've had a warm welcome from local people," said Richard.

"We always said that when we got our own pub we would make it a priority to be able to do what we can for the community, holding events and helping charities, and that's what we plan to do."

Richard and Jenny have encouraged the pub's activities and games, including bat and trap, shove ha'penny and cribbage.

They have changed the look of the pub too, softening the ambience with candle-style lighting, plants, historic pictures of local scenes and keeping log fires burning through the winter.

Richard has no regrets about not becoming a banker – every day spent running his own business in such picturesque surroundings is a bonus in itself.

Budget ignored 'hung economy'

AFTER a Budget he labelled "impotent on public finances and the economy", Sevenoaks MP Michael Fallon went direct to a Kent business forum for feedback.

He told those at the meeting that Chancellor Alistair Darling's latest measures would do little to change what he called a 'hung economy' – the UK being half in and half out of recession. He was speaking to invited business people and professionals at an event hosted by accountants Horwath Clark Whitehill (HCW) at the Royal Oak Hotel, Sevenoaks, just days before the Tory MP and deputy chairman of the Treasury Select Committee met with Mr Darling for a Budget follow-up.

He told the group: "The Budget should have addressed the huge hole in the public finances, but failed to do so. We needed a plan but the Government is saying nothing will be done until April 2011. I think that's dangerous."

"We need to make cuts during this financial year and could start with scrapping quangos and the ID card scheme."

There was then a lively debate, with guests asking Mr Fallon how small businesses could be helped and encouraged to prosper.

Firing up

Mr Fallon said: "At the moment the economy is not just fragile, it needs firing up. We need to recapture the five to six per cent of GDP that has been lost during the recession so we must make it easier and cheaper for small businesses to employ people. We also need to give bosses the right to request references that mean something and make sure they are exempt from more legislation."

Mr Fallon also wanted help for exporters and to increase the availability of credit, particularly for start-up companies and, talking about the local economy, he voiced concern that more than a third of the unemployed in Sevenoaks were under 25.

Chris Gandon of HCW, which has offices in Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone, said: "Michael has always been a great supporter of local business. These briefings, which have been taking place for years, are an ideal way for him to speak to real companies and take the opinions of bosses straight to Westminster."

"Taking place just a few days before he met with Alistair Darling, this was a great opportunity for Kent's business community to provide their feedback on the Budget."



FEEDBACK: Michael Fallon

Growing ambition

RAPID advances in technology and the economic downturn mean these are tough times for printers.

But Tonbridge-based Prometheus Press has not only weathered the storm but relocated within Kent after a £2.5 million investment.

There was a danger that trade-only printer Prometheus would have to scale down or move completely after outgrowing its site at the Botany trading estate.

But after consulting investment promotion agency Locate in Kent, the firm was granted planning permission to change the use of a former distribution centre on the same estate.

New space secured, Prometheus invested in new litho and digital technology to turn its new home into a modern facility and begin making bespoke photobooks, diaries, calendars and gift card packs.

MD Julian Marsh said: "We were keen to stay in Kent as we wanted to minimise disruption to staff."

"The county suits us due to its proximity to London and easy access to the motorway network."

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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1910 100 YEARS AGO: KENT police tried to prosecute the landlord of the Railway Bell in Tonbridge for the heinous crime of allowing alcohol to be sold on his premises while a game of quoits took place on Good Friday.

Residents in Priory Road had complained about the noise coming from the pub, but when the police turned up Fred Wisdom, the landlord, denied selling intoxicating liquids, claiming that any noise was down to the excitement generated by the game.

The case was thrown out.

There was major shock in the Chatham Charity Cup when Depot Batt Royal Engineers beat Woolwich Arsenal reserves 1-0 at the latter's Manor Ground in Plumstead, playing "brisk, bustling football".

In another upset, newly-crowned Kent Senior Cup winners, Northfleet United, were beaten 2-1 by Sheppey United on a wet and blustery Wednesday night at Botany Road.

1960 50 YEARS AGO: DAVID Sadler inspired Maidstone Tech to an 8-1 win over Vinters School in the Maidstone Schools Cup at Ditton Corner. The Tech (now Oakwood Park Grammar School) took the lead after just seven minutes through Sadler, who went on to play for Manchester United and England, and overran their opponents.

A year after he feared for the "almost total absence of promising youngsters", Kent manager Les Ames was a happier man, after signing 16-year-old David Nicholls from Gravesend CC.

Ames promised there would be more signings to come: "I am particularly pleased about the indoor school at Eltham Baths, which has turned out one or two promising youngsters... the club's search for talent is having some success, but we are especially looking for spin bowlers."

1985 25 YEARS AGO: BARRY Fry went on a one-man "mercy mission" to Kettering, in a bid to overturn a suspension for Maidstone United's goalkeeper Derek Richardson, who faced a ban after allegedly threatening a fan.

Fry trekked to Northamptonshire to plead with the fan, who was alleged to have thrown a snowball at the keeper.

Fry's style of management was also demonstrated by a grovelling apology he gave to supporters after the Stones were humiliated 4-1 at home by Kidderminster.

He punished the players by forcing all of them to turn out for the reserves - who subsequently beat Gravesend & Northfleet 8-0.

And, inevitably, he was active in the transfer market, trying to persuade Folkestone to allow Neil Cugley to join Maidstone on a permanent deal.

Best of enemies

Camier outspeeds pal Shakey in World Superbike duel in Portugal



CLOSE QUARTERS: (l-r) Leon Camier and Shane Byrne went head-to-head in Portugal last weekend, with Camier coming out on top in both races

By TOM HOWARD

THEY'RE close friends off the track, but World Superbike Championship (WSC) stars Leon Camier and Shane Byrne proved friendship counts for nothing in motorsport after a close battle in Portugal.

The Kent pair, who were team-mates at Airwaves Ducati in the 2008 British Superbike Championship, were locked in a race-long

battle won by Camier at the second round of the WSC at the Portimao circuit.

The 23-year-old Aprilia rider, from Ashford, competing in his first full WSC season, has remained close friends with 34-year-old superbike veteran Byrne, from Sheppey.

The two British riders showed their competitive edge on the track - a recent addition to the motorsport circuit, opening in 2008 - fighting tooth and nail over the undulating track and through its sweeping turns.

Camier finished ahead of his more experienced rival, securing two fifth-placed finishes, while Althea's Shakey finished sixth and seventh.

Camier said: "It was great to run along with Shakey, it was like the old days in British Superbikes. To be honest I probably wrecked his race as he was really quick off the line."

"I probably held him up a bit, but I had the pace in the end to beat him. It's good fun and we race fair; it's not like coming up against someone you don't get on with and pull dirty moves on the track."

"We both put hard moves on one another, but never anything unfair."

Camier and Byrne continue their on-track battle at the third round of the championship at Spain's Valencia circuit next weekend.

Disabled teams' success

DISABILITY football in the county continues to make progress, with two tournaments reaching their climax in Kent last weekend.

The Football Association has made the sport a priority growth area and they are launching a disability strategy at Wembley later this month.

The scene at a county level is encouraging, with about 40 teams now competing regularly - an increase of 30 per cent from last season.

Nine of those were involved in the final round of games in the Kent Adult Disability League, held at Whitstable Community College last Sunday.

Folkestone Invicta beat Thanet Galaxy 8-1 to lift the Premiership title, while Canterbury City won the Championship division.

A day earlier the Kent FA hosted the final Disability Centre of Excellence festival at Cobdown, near Maidstone. The tournament

was part of a series of regional fixtures, with representative teams from Norfolk, Middlesex and Surrey competing to help develop the game.

The programme is starting to bear fruit, with Harry Gibbons selected for the England under-16 visually impaired development squad.

The Kent under-14s player will meet up with the rest of his new team-mates at a training camp at Lilleshall later this month.

Stephanie Gadd, disability development officer at the Kent FA, said: "Harry's the first player we've had go all the way to a national squad, which is inspiring for everyone else involved."

The main focus over the next year is on developing disability football for women and girls, plus teams specifically for those with cerebral palsy and visual impairments.



CHAMPIONS: Folkestone Invicta stormed to the Premiership title

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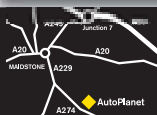
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Gravesend set sights on tackling the best

By **STEVE TERVET**

HAVING secured the London 1 South league title a week ago, Gravesend have set their sights on challenging rugby's elite in the National League next season.

The Gs wrapped up the championship with a 29-16 win over Old Elthamians at Rectory Field last Saturday and will now play 'step five' rugby for the first time in their history, moving into National 3 London & South East.

Just two years ago, Gravesend were competing in London 3 South, but their chairman, Graham Haggard, insists their focus is not simply to stay up next season, but to push for more honours.

"This has been our best-ever season," he said. "I think we've got to where we should be now. We've always been one of the top five sides in Kent and now we've proved our point."

"It's exciting, we've played some of the sides in that division before so we're know what they're like. We look forward to playing Dorking and Basingstoke again because we beat both of them once last season and they seem to have done well at that level."

Gravesend have looked like promotion material since the early weeks of the campaign, although a brave challenge from Dover briefly threatened to derail their title charge.

Haggard said the belief within the squad had never been in question and believes their 18-15 defeat at Sidcup on January 2 sparked the Gs into greater efforts and a subsequent 10-game winning run which culminated in the title-clincher eight days ago.

"Physically and mentally, we've been too strong," he said. "There was no way we were going to let it get away from us."



LOOKING UP: Gravesend (in black and white) won the London 1 South title last weekend

Gs chief in call to hold final at neutral ground

GRAVESEND remain on course to complete an historic double but they may face an 'away' game if they reach the final of the Kent Cup.

The finals of all four county competitions will be held at Old Elthamians RFC on April 25, although the Chislehurst club are still one of the four remaining sides in the cup.

Elthamians take on Sevenoaks in the semi-finals while the Gs take on Old Colfeians.

Gravesend chairman Graham Haggard

said: "I feel the cup final should be held at a neutral ground and the pitch at Elthamians is not suitable for this sort of fixture."

Tim Fagg, the Kent RFU chairman of competitions, said: "We had four clubs bidding to host the final and three of them have hosted finals previously."

"We played it at Canterbury three years ago, when they were in the final, so there is a precedent."



RETURN: Harlequins train during their visit to Medway Dragons last year

Quins to return for training with Dragons squad

ASPIRING rugby league players will get the chance to get up close and personal with a Super League squad next week as Harlequins hold a training session in Gillingham.

The south's only top-flight rugby league club have developed strong links with the area ever since Medway Dragons formed in 2008.

It is rapidly becoming an Easter tradition for Quins head coach Brian McDermott to put his full squad through their paces in front of the Dragons' players. They will again visit the Garrison Stadium on Thursday, before later taking charge of a training session for the young players.

Martin Cloyd, Dragons' director of rugby league, feels the club's players gain a huge amount from the relationship with Quins.

He said: "It's fantastic. The youngsters can pick out and observe the guys who play in the same position as they do. They are high-level athletes and in some cases world-class players."

"Then in the session for our players the Quins' coaching staff pass on little details on how to improve which our guys benefit from tremendously."

The relationship between the clubs runs both ways. Despite only just entering their third season, the Dragons have unearthed some promising talent and four players have come through to sign professional forms at Harlequins.

Duo run out of pot luck in China

BARRY Hawkins and Gerard Greene were unable to upset world-class opposition as both lost in the first round at the China Open this week.

The tournament in Beijing, which finishes today, is the final tournament ahead of the season climax at the World Snooker Championship in Sheffield later this month.

Both Hawkins and Greene came through qualifying to reach the last 32, but their opening games against players provisionally ranked in the top eight went to form.

Dartford cuman Hawkins was hoping for a run in the tournament to strengthen his claims to break back into the world's top-16.

His path was blocked by world number two Stephen Maguire, who built a 4-2 lead before completing a 5-3 victory.

Greene also had a tough time against local favourite Ding Junhui. The Rainham potter was 4-1 down inside 80 minutes but scrapped his way to take the sixth frame.

He narrowed the gap to one frame by taking frame seven, but any hopes of a comeback were quashed as Ding closed out the match with a century break.

The Kent duo now have a fortnight to prepare for tough ties in the World Championship. Hawkins plays defending champion John Higgins, while Shaun Murphy, also a former winner, stands in Greene's way.

Picture: KEVIN MURRAY

Prince's putt up proposal for player accommodation



PLANS to refurbish the Old Clubhouse at Prince's Golf Club into accommodation for golfers could move a step forward next week.

The existing building suffered extensive fire damage two years ago, with proposals aimed at renovating and extending the structure. Following an extensive process since the original

application was received in March, 2009, Dover council's planning committee is due to discuss the plans on Thursday.

If approved it would be transformed into 14 self-catering flats for visiting golfers, plus other facilities including a gym, bar and lounge. The facility would form part of the club's ongoing improvement of its 27-hole

course and once finished could help Prince's attract larger events on a regular basis.

A former host of The Open Championship, the Sandwich club is already due to host several important tournaments over the next three years.

This summer it will host the best young players in the country as they battle for the

McGregor Trophy, the English under-16 boys' amateur championship.

Next year will see the course stage part of local final qualifying for The Open ahead of the main tournament at neighbouring Royal St George's, while in 2013 it co-hosts the Amateur Championship with Royal Cinque Ports.

Olympic hero Staff leaving the track with 'no regrets'

Gold medal winner ready for new challenges

By TOM HOWARD

FEW athletes finish their careers completely satisfied with their achievements, but when indoor cyclist Jamie Staff announced his retirement this week there were no regrets.

The 36-year-old enjoyed a hugely successful competitive record which saw him win 16 medals at major championships, including three world titles and the most prized possession of all, Olympic gold at Beijing in 2008.

A combination of a back injury, picked up in November, plus his age and a new generation of talent riders coming through the ranks prompted the decision. It means he will not defend his Olympic title at the London 2012 Games.

"I would probably need to have an operation on my back to fix it and I just don't have the drive to battle back from that," he told Kent on Sunday. "I would have to work harder than I've ever had before. At the London Games I would need to ride faster than I did at Beijing to win gold. I don't want to put my family through all that again. Also I don't want to give the Great Britain team false hope."

After winning all there is in the sport, including gold in the team sprint at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, alongside Sir Chris Hoy and Jason Kenny, he finds his success hard to believe.

"It's been an amazing career and I managed to achieve all my goals," he said. "When I first started riding I was just a boy who loved riding bikes. I think even if I went back 10 years and someone told me I would become Olympic champion I wouldn't have believed them."

Staff's story begins from his Brabourne

FACT FILE: JAMIE STAFF

1982: Began BMX riding at Folkestone Flyers BMX Club

1996: World BMX Champion

2001: Top of the USA BMX rankings

2002: Switches from BMX to Track Cycling and wins place in Great Britain team. Team sprint world champion

2003: Silver in team sprint at National Championships

2004: World Keirin champion. Disqualified from Athens Olympics, quits cycling for six months

2005: Team sprint world champion

2006: Silver in team sprint at Melbourne Commonwealth Games and Silver in team sprint Track World Championship

2007: Bronze in Kilometre at Track Cycling World Championships

2008: Silver in team sprint at Track Cycling World Championships. Olympic champion



FAMILY MAN: Jamie Staff celebrates his win with wife Melia and twins Grace and Theodore after his success at the Beijing Olympics

in team sprint at Beijing Olympics. National team sprint champion

2009: Silver in team sprint at Track Cycling World Championships. Awarded MBE in the 2009 New Year Honours list. National team sprint champion

2010: Announces retirement from competitive cycling

home near Ashford. He began riding a BMX at the Folkestone Flyers club aged nine and his talent eventually prompted a move to America.

At 23 he became BMX world champion and after seven years competing in BMX, the lure of the Olympics came calling. He completed a sensational switch to track cycling in 2002, which didn't have the smoothest of beginnings.

He said: "I remember my first ever ride on a track cycling bike because I crashed and I thought this wasn't for me. I carried on and it just went from there."

A place in the Great Britain team fol-

lowed shortly after, along with medals at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester and his first world title in the Team Sprint discipline.

But his finest moment, winning Olympic gold in Beijing, came close to not happening at all, after he quit the sport in 2004.

Disqualified from the Athens Olympic for a harsh move in the Keirin race, he gave up track cycling and worked alongside a carpenter for six months. Staff described the decision to return to the sport as a pivotal moment in his career.

He said: "Obviously winning gold in Beijing is the highlight and I thank God that I came



MOVING ON: Jamie Staff aims to train the next generation of track talent

back to the sport. I think if I'd quit completely, that decision would have hounded me for the rest of my life."

Last year Staff helped Britain win silver in the World Championships and his final gold medals came in the National Championships (October) and World Cup meeting (November) in Manchester.

While his competitive career may be at an end, he insists he will be at the London 2012 Olympics, but in an elite coaching capacity, rather than defending his title. There are several projects he is looking into, including setting up his own cycling academy and bike company.

He said: "I need a new challenge. Coaching is something I've always been keen on, so to be on the other side will be interesting."



Circuit set to host rallycross opener

LYDDEN Hill welcomes a bumper crowd to witness the opening round of the British and Belgian Rallycross Championships this weekend.

The circuit, near Dover, once again hosts the British Rallycross Championship, but this year, fans will see the best British drivers up against their counterparts from the Belgian Championship.

The heats begin today, with the finals on Bank Holiday Monday.

Reigning champion Pat Doran (pictured) will be the man to beat as he bids to defend his title in his Ford Fiesta supercar.

His son, Liam, from Sittingbourne, will make his only appearance in the 2010 British Championship this weekend, with the aim of learning more about his new Citroen C4 car ahead of the European Rallycross Championship.

Alongside the high-powered supercar category, Lydden Hill will host races in the Stockhatch, RX150 Buggies, Super Modified, Minicross and the new Suzuki Swift Championship.

This is the modern world

MEDWAY Park hosts its first big sporting event next week as teams from around the globe come together to compete at the Modern Pentathlon World Cup, *writes David Pritchard.*

The £11.1 million project was only completed a fortnight ago, but preparations are well under way to construct grandstands and turn the inside of the athletics track into a showjumping arena.

The event is a sellout, with more than 1,000 tickets for each of the two finals days next weekend snapped up in advance.

The four-day event begins on Thursday with qualifying and is part of a five-round World Cup series. It will see the best modern pentathletes from 27 countries competing head-to-head across fencing, swimming, showjumping and the final discipline, which combines running and shooting.

Bob Dimond, Medway Park and 2012 sports development manager at Medway council, is looking forward to seeing the new venue host a world-class event.

He said: "The World Cup is so good for us because it puts us ultimately to the test because it challenges all our new facilities, the quality of our staff, plus you're adding new bits. This site isn't designed to have horses on it permanently, but we're going to have 20 horses stabled here for the showjumping."

Britain has a good recent record in the



BRIGHTEST HOPE: Mhairi Spence (left) is targeting a top-six finish

sport, winning medals at the last three Olympic Games, including Canterbury-born Georgina Harland's bronze at Athens in 2004.

One of the team's best hopes for a strong finish will be Mhairi Spence, ranked 16 in the world.

The 25-year-old is targeting a top-six finish and is relishing the opportunity of a home event as part of preparations for the London Olympics in two years' time.

She said: "It's quite exciting to be going somewhere new. The venue looks very impressive and I think the location will definitely improve our chances of good crowds."

"Everything is building towards 2012. It's a chance to get used to that idea of competing on home soil. It's good practice to produce a per-



STABLES: Medway Park will accommodate the 20 horses for the championships

formance under pressure, so it's great to have that opportunity."

There will also be local interest, with Meopham duo Kate French and Gareth Evans selected in the British team alongside Rochester's James Myatt, who will be making his World Cup debut. The 18-year-old used to train at the centre before moving to the high performance centre in Bath.

He said: "It'll be really good to compete there, especially in a World Cup. It'll be the toughest field I've been in, so it's exciting and a bit nerve-racking."

A dream fulfilled

Kent off-spinner tells of pride at making England Test debut and is looking to secure his place in side for World T20

WINNING my first Test cap for England in Bangladesh, and making my first One-Day International appearance earlier in the tour, has made the last month the most exciting and fulfilling of my career so far.

And then, this week, came the news I have also been selected in England's squad of 15 for the ICC World Twenty20 in the West Indies, which starts on April 30. It is a great time for me, my family and all those that have helped me get to this level.

At the same time, though, I have told myself the real hard work starts now as I try to build on what I have achieved this winter.

Making your Test debut for your country is, of course, the culmination of an ambition every young cricketer has, and my own feelings of pride were very much a realisation too of just what it meant to my parents, John and Rosemary and the rest of my family.

Thankfully, I was able to tip them off ahead of the second Test in Dhaka, so that they were able to be watching on television when I walked out on to the field as an England Test player. As a kid, growing up, my parents did so much for me as they ferried me around to countless games and made sure I had the right kit.

All the time I spent with England's



one-day squad in New Zealand in early 2008, without getting a game, and then all the time I was in South Africa this winter, predominantly as cover for Graeme Swann, just increased my determination to play for my country – and, thankfully, that opportunity came in Bangladesh.

After making my 50-over international debut in Mirpur and taking six wickets in an innings in the practice game against Bangladesh A, I fully expected to make my debut in the first Test at Chittagong.

It was a massive disappointment when England's management decided to go with just four bowlers and I was one of those left out. I was mortified, but I knew I had worked hard in the lead-up so all I could do was hope I would get the chance in the second match, in Dhaka.

Thankfully, it was decided we would go with the two spinners option and,

in sport, you have to be able to take the rough with the smooth. To be honest, after not making the Chittagong Test team, I looked at it as a test of my mental strength and – in that part of the world especially – it is important that you keep yourself thinking positively at all times.

I was very pleased to be able to contribute wickets, and runs, to England's victory at Dhaka. I knew I would be getting a lot of work with the ball on those pitches, but it was still nice to feel I showed the management what I can do with the bat, too.

I felt particularly elated after my four second innings wickets helped us to bowl Bangladesh out a second time to set up a 2-0 series win. Afterwards, there was great pride at having performed well on my debut and the fact England had won the game.

Overall, I feel I have learned an awful lot while being away with England this last winter – from chatting and working with all the players and from watching Graeme Swann in particular.

He has had a phenomenal last year or so, and has shown just what an off-spinner can do at the top level. As I've said before, I'm a few years younger than him, so it is up to me to learn from him and to try to improve myself still further.

As I prepare to go away to the World Twenty20, where hopefully England will want to play both Swanny and myself in at least some of the games, I also want to help Kent to start the new season well.

Playing for my county, and performing consistently and well, is what got me into the England squad in the first place and I have much to thank Kent and county cricket for in terms of the structure and opportunity that has enabled me to work and improve.

•James Tredwell, the Kent and England off-spinner, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.

PROUD MOMENT:

James Tredwell receives his first England cap from stand-in skipper Alastair Cook

Picture: GETTY IMAGES



SORE POINT: George Kennedy asked why members failed to support pop concerts

Finances and concerts hot topics at AGM

KENT members voiced their concerns over the county's financial state, a hike in membership fees and the move to play a 'home' fixture at The Oval, during the club's Annual General Meeting on Monday night.

More than 200 members turned out to listen to how, and why, the club accrued deficits of £802,452 for the last financial year, which included losses of £190,000 on the two summer pop concerts.

Chairman George Kennedy riled the membership when he asked why they hadn't supported the now infamous Sugababes and James Morrison concerts, after just six put their hands up to say they had attended.

Kennedy moved quickly to say the club would not be undertaking such a risky venture in future, but felt the committee had been misled about the costs of putting on the concerts.

A hot topic on the night was the new membership structure which has seen a hike of more than 50 per cent in some cases.

Revenue

Incoming chief executive, Jamie Clifford, admitted he had received letters from members who wouldn't be renewing, but said the new structure was done to "generate more revenue" and not alienate supporters.

He pointed to a year-on-year increase in membership sales of 18.9 per cent – £298,798 to the end of March this year and £257,236 to the same time last year – which he said "justifies our approach".

The controversial idea to play a 'home' Friends Provident t20 game at Surrey's Brit Oval was also criticised by some who claimed they wouldn't be attending on a matter of principle. The club revealed they would need to get more than 4,000 through the gate to break even, but are confident of doing so with the average t20 gate at The Oval at more than 16,000. Kent will share ticket sales and hospitality with Surrey, while the 'hosts' will take all bar receipts.

Kent also announced that skipper Rob Key is to have a benefit year in 2011.

New Kent chief ready to ring the changes

JAMIE Clifford described this period in Kent's history as a "watershed" moment after taking over as chief executive full-time this week, writes Glenn Pearson.

The 33-year-old was officially appointed Paul Millman's successor at the club's Annual General Meeting on Monday night, having impressed the committee as acting chief executive in his four months in the role.

Club chairman George Kennedy interviewed a number of candidates from a variety of sports, but plumped for Clifford, citing his knowledge of the club – having been associated with Kent cricket since 2002 – as a principal reason.

Clifford, born in Margate and brought up in Broadstairs, is now tasked with the job of steering

the club through a difficult period which includes the £8.2 million redevelopment of St Lawrence.

Also top of the list is making some headway in overturning club deficits, which stand at £802,452 for the financial year ending October 31, 2009, together with overseeing a much criticised membership scheme and a move to play a t20 'home' game at The Oval this summer.

Different course

The new chief executive believes this year represents a chance to wipe the slate clean and take the club on a different course.

He told Kent on Sunday: "It feels like a bit of a watershed moment in terms of the club's

history if you like, but we have a real opportunity to set a new direction for the club and that's how I see my role really – leading the club in a new direction."

A more "business-like" approach will have to be adopted as the club come to terms with its poor financial state and Clifford and his financial team will come under more scrutiny than the cricket side in the next 12 months, something he is fully aware of.

He said: "I think the fact we are a members' club is important because it creates what we are as an organisation, but what I'm very clear about is what underpins that is a successful and well-run business. It has to be a business-like approach from now on."



CLEAN SLATE: Chief executive Jamie Clifford



FLYER: Dewald Nel has impressed Kent's staff



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DEWALD KEEN ON STAYING

New seamer ready to prove he's worth extended contract

KENT'S newest bowling recruit is looking to prove he can cut it in county cricket after signing a two-year deal to help boost the club's threadbare seam department.

The county expressed their interest in signing South African-born seamer Dewald Nel when they discovered more than a month ago that Australian Stuart Clark wasn't a realistic option due to fitness concerns.

County coach Paul Farbrace met with Nel and invited him to a trial at St Lawrence last week, where he did enough to impress skipper Rob Key, and senior players Martin van Jaarsveld and Geraint Jones, to earn himself a contract.

The 29-year-old qualifies for Scotland through residency, having lived in Edinburgh for 13 years, and has played 18 One-Day Internationals and 10 Twenty20 games for his adopted country.

Nel has experience of playing county cricket after a spell with Worcestershire in 2007, but was released after a handful of games in his one summer with the Midlands county.

Clearly disappointed at not getting enough of an opportunity at Worcester, Nel is confident he can do a job for Kent and prove he is a county-standard bowler.

"I'm very excited to be at Kent and it's nice to get back in to county cricket," he said.

"I was made aware the club were after a seamer to get their bowling stocks up so, coupled with the fact I thoroughly enjoyed Kent as a place whenever I have played there, playing for Kent was very appealing."

The county are banking on Amjad Khan and Robbie Joseph spearheading their attack and hope an overseas bowler – should they get a work permit in time to play for the first half of the summer – will provide the firepower in the seam department, backed up by Nel and the ever dependable Simon Cook.

Farbrace, who sent coach Simon Willis to Dubai last month to see Nel in action, said the medium pacer fitted the bill when it came to

By **GLENN PEARSON**

deciding what they needed to supplement their bowling attack.

He said: "We needed someone else in our attack and we couldn't afford someone we didn't know anything about."

"We went for Dewald who has experience of county cricket with Worcester and international cricket with Scotland, we know what we are getting, which is a solid performer who will do a steady holding job."

The Kent coach likens Nel to the evergreen Simon Cook, who proved his worth to the side last season with 34 wickets after being sensibly recalled to the championship side having been restricted to just limited overs cricket in the 2008 season.

Nel hopes to follow in Cook's footsteps and earn himself a contract extension at the end of the summer.

"When you go into a team you have some idea of what they expect from you and I hope to deliver for them," he said.

"My strengths are in running in and hitting the pitch hard, back of a length. Simon Cook is known for his accuracy so to be put in the bracket of someone of that calibre is a nice thing. Hopefully I can live up to that."

"I think for a player coming from Scotland, it gives the chance to focus and enhance my own playing ability and that's the number one thing and the driving force, because I want to be the best I can be."

"One of my goals this season is to get my contract extended beyond the two years I signed for. I would love to stay and spend my time playing cricket at the highest level I can."

The Klerksdorp-born cricketer, who was schooled at Edinburgh University after moving to Scotland in 1997, was one of just three players to earn a full-time contract with Scotland last year.

As the country's premier seamer, Scotland will recall Nel for several games this summer, affecting his availability for his new county.

Joseph touch and go for season opener

ROBBIE Joseph may not be fit in time for the start of the season leaving Kent with a headache in the bowling ranks.

The fast bowler had shoulder surgery at the end of last season and has only just had the all-clear from specialists to up the workload.

If he isn't fully fit in time he won't be risked for Kent's opening LV= County Championship opener against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge on April 15. Head coach Paul Farbrace said: "If Robbie

Joseph doesn't make the start of the season then Azhar Mahmood and Dewald Nel could play the first two games of the season."

"You do have to keep a good watch on his physical shape and Amjad Khan's as well, not because of injury but fatigue as well. I would say there's nothing more than 80 per cent chance at this stage."

Farbrace is also hoping that Nel, the club's new overseas signing, will be available from April 26 after completing the first section of his visa application.

King sure to be out for rest of season

SIMON King looks certain to lose his battle to play for Gillingham this season after making slow progress in recovering from a serious ankle injury.

The highly rated centre-back needed surgery on damaged ligaments after falling awkwardly in a pre-season friendly at Bromley almost nine months ago.

It was initially hoped King would be back early in the New Year, but minor problems have repeatedly pushed the date backwards.

The 26-year-old has now reached the point where it would be too risky to rush back in time for the end of the season.

Gills boss Mark Stimson said: "Simon's nowhere near the fitness levels you'd need to play, so we would be pushing him and I don't think we'd be able to do that."

"A couple of weeks ago he was really pushing himself to get that fitness, but he had a bit of a hiccup and had to stop for a few days, so now we've had to go back to the basics and build it up really slowly."

"He's got to look at it now to get fit so he can start with the boys in pre-season. It's been more than a nightmare for him because he loves playing the game, he's so committed and he's such a big player for us."

Elsewhere in the squad, out-of-favour striker Mark McCammon has declined the chance to join non-league side Dover Athletic on loan. The 31-year-old has not scored in almost a year and has made just two appearances for the Gills in 2010.

McCammon has just returned from a loan spell at Bradford, who decided against extending the deal due to a lack of fitness. Dover were interested this week, but the tall forward declined to drop three divisions.



Simon King

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